

## West Bank protests continue

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Arabs in the Israeli-occupied West Bank Tuesday stoned Israeli vehicles, and schoolchildren closed down schools for the third day over the shooting of two Arab youths, the military command said. Israeli soldiers fired tear gas at Arab protesters in Ramallah, and one schoolgirl was slightly injured by the gas, the command said. The military said schools were closed in the town. In Nablus, the West Bank's largest town, schoolchildren failed to show up for classes. Arab demonstrators stoned Israeli vehicles and set up a roadblock, a military spokesman said. Demonstrations were also staged in Hebron, according to the military.

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## Klibi holds talks with EEC officials

BRUSSELS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi told the European Economic Community (EEC) Tuesday that Europe should pursue its efforts to play a role in the Middle East, EEC and Belgian government sources said. Mr. Klibi's four-day private visit here is aimed at maintaining contacts with the EEC at a time when the European Middle East peace initiative is at a standstill and the Euro-Arab Dialogue remains in the doldrums, they said. He met Belgian Foreign Minister and current EEC Council of Ministers President Leo Tindemans, and the president of the EEC Commission, Gaston Thorn.

## Iraq praises NCC efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Iraqi National Council Na'im Haddad said Tuesday that Iraq is proud of Jordan's pan-Arab stance and its fraternal support of the Iraqi people's struggle to regain their rights and sovereignty over their territories and waterways. In a message he sent to National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Ahmad Al Tarawneh, Mr. Haddad also praised the NCC efforts to support Iraq in its national war against the aggression of the Iranian regime on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

## Lebanon needs to borrow heavily

BEIRUT (R) — War-torn Lebanon will need to borrow nearly half the money it needs to run its government because of a sharp decline in revenues caused by the political and security situation, Finance Minister Ali Al Khalil told parliament Tuesday. The parliament approved a 6.3-billion pound (\$1.3 billion) budget for the 1982 financial year, only 55 per cent of which is covered by expected revenue. In his report to parliament, the finance minister said revenues were declining because of the political and security situation. The government's income this year would be 3.5 billion Lebanese pounds (\$730 million), against 3.6 billion pounds (\$750 million) last year, and inflation was pushing up the cost of government, he said.

## Somali president due in Washington

NAIROBI, Kenya (A.P.) — Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre arrives in Washington Tuesday night on his first official visit to the U.S. since his country broke with the Soviet Union in 1977 and turned to the West. Gen. Barre is scheduled to meet U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Thursday, and diplomats say the top item on the Somali leader's agenda is the delivery of \$45 million worth of promised radar and anti-aircraft equipment.

## Kaddoumi to visit Italy

ROME (R) — Farouk Kaddoumi, the "foreign minister" of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), will visit Rome next week for talks with Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. Mr. Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, will be here from March 16-19 and will also meet political party leaders. Vatican sources said he would probably have an audience with Pope John Paul but there was no official confirmation.

## Riyadh gives PLO \$28.5m

RIYADH (A.P.) — Saudi Arabia has given the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) a further financial aid instalment of \$28.5 million, Rafik Al Natsheh, the representative of the PLO's mainstream guerrilla group Fatah in Saudi Arabia, said Tuesday he has received the sum according to an aid arrangement Saudi Arabia committed itself to at previous Arab summit. "The Saudi kingdom has never delayed its pledged obligations, in addition to supporting the Palestinian revolution in all spheres," Mr. Natsheh said in a statement to the Saudi Press Agency.

## Village Leagues members to face treason charges

AMMAN (R) — Jordan Tuesday said it would bring treason charges involving the death penalty against Arabs living on the Israeli-occupied West Bank who belong to the Israeli-sponsored Village Leagues.

The Israeli occupation authorities set up the Village Leagues as municipal authorities to bypass the elected mayors of the main West Bank towns.

Prime Minister and Defence Minister Mudar Badran in a defence order published Tuesday, said those who failed to withdraw from the leagues within a month would face treason charges which

could entail capital punishment and confiscation of property.

The same measures would apply to those who joined the leagues or cooperated with them after April 9.

Mr. Badran said Israel was embarking on measures aimed at de facto annexation of the West Bank.

Legal experts here said that though the West Bank is still officially part of Jordan, Tuesday's order would only come into effect if West Bank Arabs belonging to the Village Leagues crossed into Jordan, where they would be arrested and tried by military courts.

## Christian bishops issue appeal on Pope's remarks

AMMAN (Petra) — The heads of the Christian denominations in Jordan issued a statement on Tuesday on the Christian-Jewish dialogue in the Vatican.

"The international press have reported that a Christian-Jewish dialogue is taking place in the Vatican. Intellectual dialogue among the various religions and ideologies is not an abnormal or peculiar phenomenon, but has been going on throughout history," the statement said.

The statement, issued by Msgr. Dr. Raouf Najjar of the Roman Catholic Church, Bishop Saba Yookim of the Melkites, and Bishop Elia Khouri of the Anglican Church, said that the Vatican had formed a committee entrusted with regulating the dialogue between the Christians and Muslims. "However, we hope that the current dialogue between the Vatican and the Jews would be within the framework of normality like any other dialogue," the statement added.

The statement expressed the fear that "Zionism, which has been clever in penetrating the various religious and intellectual circles, would use the dialogue to serve its own suspect ends."

"However, we are confident," the statement said, "that the Vatican is aware of such traps and would not allow such a dialogue to turn into a gain to Zionism and a loss to the other religions, which we hope would remain pure and free from stumbling into the labyrinth of Judaisation."

The statement added: "We, here in the Holy Lands, which are vanquished by the Zionist occupation, and we, who are living near captive Jerusalem, are confident that His Holiness the Pope and his respected aides will tell those engaged in the dialogue the word of truth and justice on the Palestinian issue in general and Jerusalem and the Islamic and Christian Holy Places in particular, as well as on the Palestinian people, who like other freedom-loving peoples, have been struggling for long to acquire their right to self-determination and to live in their country in peace, freedom and amity alongside all peoples of the area."

## Saleh in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH (R) — North Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh arrived in Riyadh Tuesday for his second visit to Saudi Arabia in four months, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

Col. Saleh visited the kingdom in November, shortly after talks in Moscow with Soviet leaders on possible fresh arms supplies to his country.

## Opposition candidates say Guatemala election rigged

GUATEMALA CITY (A.P.) — With the government's military candidate leading the presidential race. All three opposition candidates called for demonstrations Tuesday in the main square to demand new elections.

As the slow vote count continued, Gustavo Anzueto, a member of the Authentic Nationalist Centre, who is running last, asked his supporters Tuesday to join the other candidates' protest in front of the national palace.

Mario Sandoval Alarcon of the ultra-rightist National Liberation Movement and Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre of centre-right Christian Democratic-Nation

Renovator coalition, who are running second and third, charged at a news conference Monday night that the elections were rigged by the military-dominated government. They demanded that the vote be nullified and a new election held within 60 days.

The rightist coalition supporting front runner Gen. Angel Anibal Guevara proclaimed his victory in newspaper advertisements on Tuesday, although he apparently will not get the majority needed for election. If no candidate receives a majority, congress, dominated by the ruling coalition, will choose the winner from the top two candidates.

## El Salvador battles continuing

SAN SALVADOR (Agencies) — Left-wing guerrillas fought fierce battles with government forces in two of El Salvador's major cities on Monday before withdrawing.

Army sources said at least 30 guerrillas were killed in San Miguel for the loss of three soldiers. Bullet-ridden bodies were left on the streets after a five-hour battle.

In San Vicente, the insurgents attacked at dawn and withdrew after seven hours of house-to-house skirmishes in which at least 15 people were killed.

The guerrillas distributed pamphlets saying the left-wing groups under the umbrella of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front had started a new offensive to oust the civilian-military junta.

Official sources said there had also been clashes in the province of La Union, about 160 kilometres east of San Salvador.

President Jose Napoleon Duarte, who has called constituent assembly elections on March 28 in an attempt to resolve El Salvador's undeclared civil war, on Monday night denied charges that National Guards had massacred peasants in a hamlet in San Vicente province.

Peasants in a guerrilla-controlled area close to the Campanario hamlet said National Guardsmen had machine-gunned about 124 peasants in January.

Reporters visited the place on Monday and found 14 skulls on a mound, human bones and torn clothes.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said the charges of a massacre in El Campanario were being investigated.

In Washington, the administration of President Ronald Reagan plans to produce photographic evidence on Tuesday night of a massive military buildup in Nicaragua based on an influx of Soviet and Warsaw bloc weapons channelled through Cuba.

A briefing for reporters was scheduled at the State Department by officials of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Defence Intelligence Agency.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan talks with Mr. Leopold Senghor upon the former Senegalese president's arrival at Amman Airport on Tuesday (Petra photo)

## Senghor arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was at the head of a senior delegation receiving former Senegalese President Leopold Senghor upon his arrival in Amman airport Tuesday afternoon for a five-day visit to Jordan in response to an invitation from Prince Hassan.

President Senghor will participate in the preparatory meetings of the third Arab-African forum scheduled to be held in the Moroccan city of Assilah in August. The conferees will discuss the agenda of the conference on the dialogue between North and South countries which will be held in the city of Avignon, France late this month.

A programme has been prepared for the Senegalese guest, including visits to the historic and tourist sites in Jordan. He will also visit the Martyrs' Monument, the

University of Jordan, the Royal Scientific Society and the city of Jerash. President Senghor will lecture at the World Affairs Council on Arab-African cooperation.

Also greetings Mr. Senghor at the airport were Court Minister Amer Khammash, Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni, several high-ranking officials, and the Sudanese ambassador in Amman.

President Senghor is accompanied by a delegation comprising the assistant chairman of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and former minister of agriculture in Benin, Mansa Moys, member of the Moroccan Royal Academy, Mahdi Mangara, and Mohammed Ibn Issa, president of the Al Muhit cultural society, rapporteur of the parliamentary cultural affairs committee in Morocco, and secretary of the provisional committee of the Arab-African forum.

## Iraq captures strategic hills

NICOSIA (A.P.) — Iraqi forces captured four strategic hills at Sar-e Pol Zahab in western Iran after day-long fighting with Iranian forces, Baghdad Radio reported Monday.

A war communiqué broadcast by the radio said the four villages of Kalina, Shamyhiyaen, Barco and Majeed Key were "completely cleared of Iranian troops and positions."

Sar-e Pol Zahab is 30 kilometres east of the border from main Iran-Iraq border crossing at Qasr-e Shirin, on the highway leading to the predominantly Kurdish populated province of Kermanshah.

The communiqué said the captured hills all overlook the highway, which also leads into Iraqi beartland north of Baghdad. The strategic hills are reported to have changed hands several times in the course of the 17-month-old war between the two countries.

The communiqué said fierce clashes developed in the area with an Iraqi attack early Monday, in which at least 117 Iranian troops were killed and scored wounded or captured.

It added that the Iraqis also captured a large quantity of weapons in usable conditions.

## Soviets criticise Iranians

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda complained Tuesday about Iran's attitude towards Moscow and said right-wingers around ruler Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini were blocking progress towards good relations between the two countries.

In a commentary marking the third anniversary of the overthrow of the Shah, Pravda analyst Pavel Demchenko said Moscow had given strong support to the Islamic Republic which succeeded him and had aided its consolidation.

It was therefore unjust of many Iranian leaders to class the United States and Soviet Union together as an equal threat to their country, he said.

Criticism of the Iranian Islamic leadership has been rare in the Soviet press and the commentary indicated irritation in Moscow that its attempts to woo Tehran over the past three years had brought no results.

Pravda said the Kremlin had helped Iran withstand a U.S. blockade of its ports in 1980 by stepping up transit facilities for supplies to pass through Soviet territory.

It suggested that Soviet support for the Iranian revolution had also dissuaded Washington from taking more drastic action against the new republic.

But despite these efforts there had been no attempt on the Iranian side to improve links with Moscow, the daily said.

The newspaper also complained about anti-Soviet demonstrations in Iran and said a group of Soviet Muslims on an official visit had been forced to listen to people chanting hostile slogans at them.

Mr. Demchenko's article attacked Iranian assertions that communism and Islam were incompatible, saying this was a "totally unacceptable" view which had been disproved by Soviet history.

## Saudis question Iranian pilot

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (R) — An Iranian pilot defected to Saudi Arabia last Thursday in a U.S.-built Phantom jet fighter, according to the defence ministry.

A ministry statement, carried by the Saudi Press Agency on Monday night, said Saudi authorities were questioning the pilot, whose name and rank were not given.

A Kuwaiti newspaper said on Monday the pilot was given asylum in Saudi Arabia, whose relations with Iran have worsened since the 1979 revolution there.

## Bonn to stick by Soviet gas deal

BONN (A.P.) — West Germany's foreign minister indicated Tuesday his country would go through with purchases of Soviet natural gas regardless of whether the situation in Poland deteriorates.

At the same time, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher made clear in a television interview West German foreign policy sought to prevent a sharpening of the Polish crisis or an outright Soviet incursion.

Mr. Genscher was asked whether the Bonn government could continue participation in the natural gas deal if the situation in Poland worsened or Soviet troops

were dispatched there. He said a Soviet invasion of Poland would be "the kind of measure which would fundamentally change the situation," adding that Bonn's policy was to show Moscow that East-West cooperation was in its interest in order to discourage it from hostile moves in Poland.

Mr. Genscher made the remarks during a joint television interview in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig for broadcast in West Germany late Tuesday.

A text of their remarks was distributed here by the foreign office

## Tehran cautioned on conflict

RIYADH (A.P.) — Saudi Arabia's foreign minister directed a cautionary note to Iran Tuesday against the potential spread of its war with Iraq as efforts were being made to contain a new Gulf dispute — this time between Bahrain and Qatar.

Prince Saud Al Faisal, speaking at a press conference following a packed three-day meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign ministers, stressed the "non-violability of Saudi airspace" and expressed hope that the Iran-Iraq war will be "contained" and "prevented from spreading" to neighbouring Gulf countries.

Prince Saud said joint defence plans formulated last January by the defence ministers of the six GCC states—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman — will be taken up by a GCC summit at a later date.

He said the foreign ministers had discussed possible joint GCC measures against Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, who vehemently denounced Saudi Arabia last week, but that the six states had limited themselves for the moment to expressing their "extreme regret and annoyance" over Col. Qadhafi's behaviour.

The prince said a joint statement issued earlier touched only on "decisions which have been approved" but that several other topics were discussed.

The statement said mainly that Saudi Arabia has agreed to exercise its good offices in finding a permanent solution to a territorial dispute between GCC neighbours Bahrain and Qatar.

Bahrain and Qatar, with populations of 380,000 and 220,000 respectively, were poised at the brink of a propaganda war last week after Qatar complained that its neighbour had undertaken "provocative" naval manoeuvres near the Huwar Islands, to which Bahrain lays historical claims.

The GCC meeting reviewed progress of economic and security integration steps taken so far by the ten-month-old grouping, saying that all six member states have committed themselves to conclude a joint internal security pact at a later date.

## Finnish president in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Finnish President Mauno Koivisto arrived in Moscow Tuesday for an official visit and was given a personal welcome by Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, the official news agency TASS reported.

It said Mr. Brezhnev, Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and other senior Kremlin officials were at the airport to welcome the new Finnish head of state as he stepped from his plane.

Dr. Koivisto's visit came six weeks after he took over the presidency from Urho Kekkonen, who built up close ties with Moscow during his 25 years in office.

In Helsinki, Finnish officials said Dr. Koivisto's talks with Soviet leaders would cover world and bilateral affairs and were intended to establish personal relations.

Relations between Finland and the Soviet Union are governed by their 1948 friendship treaty, signed after they had twice been at war in the period 1939-44. The treaty binds Finland to meet military attacks aimed at the Soviet Union through Finnish territory.

## East Germans welcome Arafat

EAST BERLIN (R) — East German leader Erich Honecker Tuesday told visiting Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat that international recognition of the PLO was a step towards peace in the Middle East. Mr. Arafat, who arrived Tuesday for an official visit at the invitation of Mr. Honecker, began wide-ranging talks with the East German leadership after a high-level reception usually reserved for heads of state. East Germany does not recognise Israel and has been a long-standing supporter of the Palestinian cause. Mr. Arafat is a frequent visitor to East Berlin where the PLO has an official diplomatic mission. The official East German news agency ADN said Mr. Honecker described the recognition of the PLO by more than 100 countries and many international organisations as proof of its political success.

## Islamic mediators to pursue efforts on Iraq-Iran war

OIC says pressure needed to break deadlock

JEDDAH (Agencies) — Islamic mediators in the Iran-Iraq war decided Tuesday to press for concessions from both sides after peace envoys to the two Muslim countries found them still wide apart on how to end the 18-month-old conflict.

After a five-day meeting here a peace committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) said Iran wanted Iraqi troops to withdraw from its territory before any negotiations while Iraq wanted a withdrawal to take place after.

It said in a statement that a follow-up committee "shall carry out its action, or may bring some pressure to bear on both sides, to obtain concessions and a common ground for peace."

The statement did not say how the mediators proposed to apply pressure on the two countries. If the follow-up committee achieved results, it said, a panel of foreign ministers would pursue the matter with both Iraq and Iran.

OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti said the follow-up committee of two or three members would be named in four to six weeks' time by President Ahmad Sekou Touré of Guinea, who heads the main peace committee.

The Guinean president led a peace mission to Baghdad on Sunday and to Tehran on Monday. Diplomats later said the withdrawal issue was the most sensitive.

"Both sides stand to lose face if they make any concession on this point. What is needed is a face-saving formula," one diplomat said.

Mr. Chatti told reporters he did not regard the latest round of shuttle diplomacy as a failure. He said both sides had reaffirmed their unequivocal confidence in the 40-member OIC and its peace committee.

"As everything must come to an end, this war must also end," he added.

Separate peace efforts by the

United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement also stumbled on the withdrawal issue, diplomats said.

The nine-man OIC peace committee, set up last year, includes leading figures from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Senegal, Guinea, Gambia, Turkey and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the OIC secretary-general.

(In Tehran on Tuesday, Iranian revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini referred to the OIC mediation in a speech, saying Iran would "not retreat a single step.")

(Tehran Radio, monitored in London, played a recording of a speech to soldiers returned from the war fronts in which he ruled out a settlement with Iraq as long as Iraqi forces were inside Iranian territories.

Mr. Chatti further rejected interpretations that the committee as a whole had failed in its effort.

"The hospitality and readiness we found, and the will expressed by the two parties, the great confidence they exhibited and their desire that the committee continue its work—that the solution should come through it—is considered a positive step which permits us to face this complex case with some hope," Mr. Chatti said.

He asserted that there was "progress in the March towards peace."

Substance of the peace formula proposed originally by the committee to both Iraq and Iran has not been divulged. Sources said however it included promises of Saudi-Islamic post-war reconstruction aid and raised the possibility of a pan-Islamic peacekeeping presence on the disputed Shatt Al Arab estuary—flashpoint of the war.

A trouble-shooting delegation had reported "very encouraging" talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Sunday. The delegation made no comment on negotiations held in Iran Monday prior to issuance of the statement.

## Habib briefs Lebanese leaders on Mideast talks

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib arrived in Beirut Tuesday as part of a round of talks aimed at strengthening a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian forces in South Lebanon.

The former Vietnam peace negotiator went straight into a meeting with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis without speaking to reporters.

U.S. officials declined to give any details of Mr. Habib's programme.

But state radio said he would brief government officials on the results of his talks over the past 11 days in Israel, Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Lebanese newspapers said they expected the envoy would also meet leaders of some of the country's warring factions.

Mr. Habib's visit to the Middle East, his fifth since last April, followed weeks of rising tension which left the ceasefire looking increasingly shaky.

Mr. Habib's mission has been shrouded in secrecy like all his

previous visits to the Middle East. U.S. officials have refused to spell out the precise aims of the trip or explain why Mr. Habib visited Jordan and Saudi Arabia as well as the three countries directly involved in the tension in Lebanon.

But last summer Saudi Arabia was reported by Arab diplomats in the Gulf to be playing a vital mediating role between the United States and the PLO, with which Washington refuses to negotiate directly.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat was in the Saudi capital Riyadh last week at the same time as Mr. Habib.

Lebanon's Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan said last week Mr. Habib had not presented him with any specific proposals for strengthening the ceasefire in South Lebanon.

Government sources said the special envoy had a range of ideas stretching from closing a gap in the U.N.-controlled zone in southern Lebanon to wider measures aimed at defusing tension in the area.

## Israel disappointed with U.S. envoy's latest tour

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials expressed disappointment Tuesday over the results produced so far by the latest Middle East mission of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib.

The officials made their views known as Mr. Habib arrived in Beirut from Israel for a new round of talks aimed at preserving the ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian commandos in southern Lebanon.

An official in Prime Minister Menachem Begin's office told Reuters: "We knew that Mr. Habib's immediate aim was to make certain the ceasefire did not

break down but we hoped that during his visits to the various Arab lands he would make some progress in moving towards a more permanent solution of the problems in Lebanon."

President Reagan sent Mr. Habib on his present mission after reports of military buildups by both Israel and the Palestinians in the area of the Lebanese-Israeli border.

"The core of the problem in Lebanon is Syria's virtual occupation of that country and the dominant role of the Palestinian terrorists based there," the Israeli official said.



# NATIONAL

## Report details booming insurance industry growth

AMMAN (J.T.) — The total fees collected by insurance companies operating in Jordan have increased ninefold during the past 10 years, according to a report on the insurance industry quoted Tuesday by Al Rai newspaper.



Radi Ibrahim

The Ministry of Industry and Trade's Insurance Control Department has issued a comprehensive report on insurance activities in Jordan from 1973-1981, the paper said. It quoted Insurance Control Department Director Radi Ibrahim as saying that the report contained a study and an analysis of the insurance industry's progress with regard to fees collected and compensation paid, for all insurance companies operating in Jordan. These include 21 Jordanian companies and 12 foreign ones, he said.

The study covered insurance

development during the 1973-1975 three-year development plan and the 1976-1980 five-year development plan, he added. It showed that fees levied by insurance companies had increased from JD 2.2 million in 1973 to JD 19.6 million in 1981: nearly nine times.

Mr. Ibrahim explained that compensations paid for damages sustained by claimants increased from JD 700,000 in 1973 to JD 9.4 million in 1981. He added that the increase in fees amounted to 28 per cent in 1981 in comparison with 1980, and that compensation paid increased by nine per cent in the same period.

Insurance companies' net income jumped from JD 266,000 in 1972 to about JD 3 million in 1980, due to the increase in the number of these companies and in their investments, he added.

Mr. Ibrahim said that insurance companies' investments in various development sectors had amounted to JD 13 million in 1981, in addition to more than JD 11 million deposited with banks. He explained that 35 per cent of the JD 13 million was invested in real estate; 12.6 per cent in banks and insurance companies' shares; 15 per cent in bonds; nine per cent in industrial sector stocks; 16.4 per cent in loans against government guarantees; six per cent in life insurance policy loans; four per cent in tourism and two per cent in other sectors.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani (right) hands a decoration to former chairman of the Wadi Seer Municipal Committee Akram Al Nasser at a ceremony Tuesday. (Petra photo)

## Wadi Seer's former committee honoured

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony took place at Wadi Seer Municipality Tuesday to honour the members of the outgoing municipality committee.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani, in a speech at the ceremony, called on the newly elected members of the municipal council to continue work, to implement projects which have not been completed. He also praised the efforts of the committee's former members.

Former Mayor Akram Al Nasser also gave a speech, reviewing

the most important achievements and projects of the committee. He praised the cooperation of citizens, who he said had positively contributed to the implementation of municipality projects.

The new mayor, Mr. Husni Sobar, gave a speech expressing his thanks to the minister and the former municipality members.

At the end of the ceremony, Mr. Momani bestowed the municipality medal, second order, on Mr. Nasser in appreciation of his efforts and those of the members of the former committee.

## Asfour urges joint Arab industrial projects

DOHA (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour on Tuesday called for setting up joint industrial projects among the Arab countries because of their "regional and national economic viability."

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper Al Arab, published here, Mr. Asfour said that setting up joint Arab industrial projects is a "must dictated by the need to boost Arab economic cooperation." He said the Arab countries possess the sufficient resources for such projects.

Mr. Asfour, who is participating in the Arab energy conference currently convening in Doha, said that energy consumption in Jordan depends on imported oil, and that Jordan's policy in providing energy is based on the assumption that oil imports must not be a burden on the state budget.

"We are following a policy of rationalising energy consumption and trying to find alternate energy sources, such as the exploitation of shale," Mr. Asfour said.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Exhibitions

- \* Islamic literature, films and posters, at the University of Jordan.
- \* Architecture en Terre Crue (Architecture in unbaked earth), at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* Paintings by Martin Savage, at the British Council Centre.
- \* Art by students of the National Orthodox School, at the Alia Art Gallery. Opens at 6 p.m.

### Lectures

- \* Arab Images in American Mass Media, by Dr. Jack Shaheen, at 6 p.m. at the American Centre.
- \* Passive Immunity in the Newborn, public seminar at the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture at 4 p.m. Organised with the Goethe Institute.
- \* The Cholera Case — An Accident? Irrigation and Food Production, the third session of the Interdisciplinary Water Seminar at the University of Jordan Faculty of Engineering and Technology. Starts at 10 a.m.

### Lectures

- \* Lectures:
- \* 10:15 a.m. Dr. Elias Saliba (associate professor, Dept. of Bio. Sci.) Man, Water and Disease.
- \* Refreshments 10:45 to 11 a.m.
- \* 11:00 a.m. Dr. Jalal Haddadin (King Hussein Medical Centre): Cholera; bacteriological and Epidemiological Aspects.
- \* 11:30 a.m. Dr. Sayed Khatari (dept. of Soil and Irrigation): Potential Plant Uptake of Heavy Metals from Industrial Waste Water Used in Irrigation.

### An Evening With Malcolm Quantrill

- \* Prof. Quantrill discusses conservation, archaeology and tourism: compatible or contradictory, with Mr. Michael Hamameh, Dr. Adnan Hadidi and Mrs. Najwa Nuseibeh, at the British Council at 8 p.m. Refreshments available from 7 p.m.

# JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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## NATIONAL

### Refugee conditions worsen

# UNRWA cost-cutting hits education plans

SCHOOLS FOR PALESTINE refugees could stay open for the rest of the year if \$20 million is raised in the next few weeks. But years of cost-cutting have left many schools with leaking roofs, blocked toilets and crumbling walls.

At least \$9 million more is needed for urgent construction, maintenance and repair work for schools, clinics and other installations operated by UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

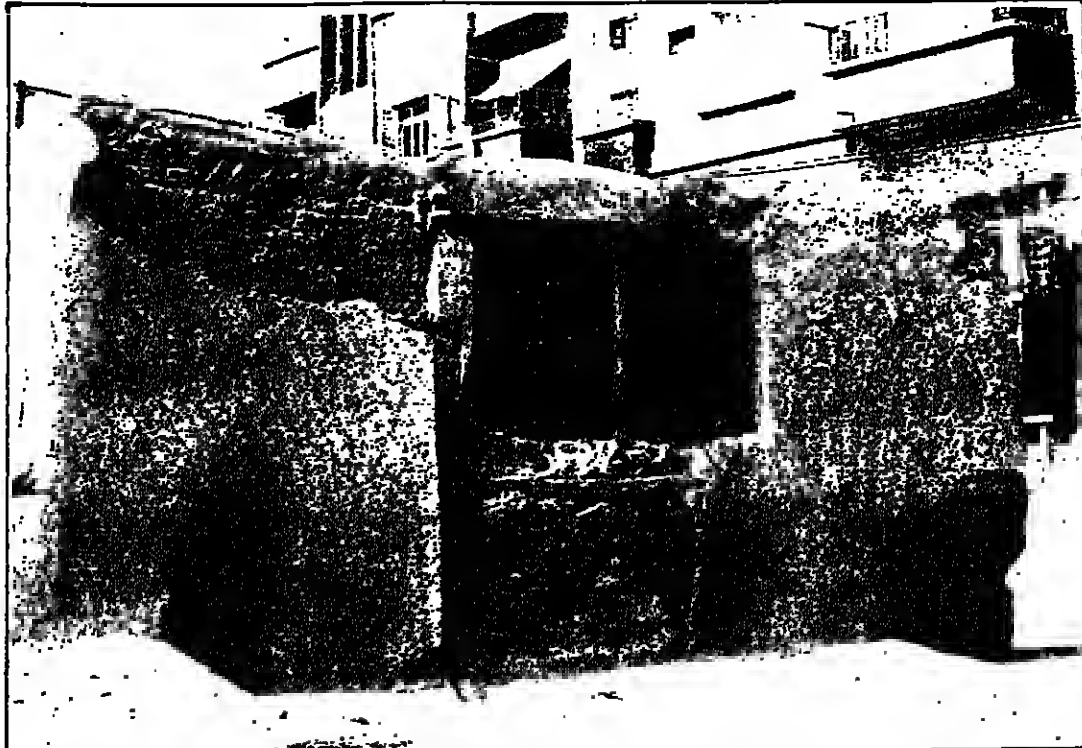
Routine maintenance has been put off so long that deterioration has set in and buildings are becoming unusable or even collapsing. This is a problem that cannot go away, even if the threat of closing UNRWA's 643 schools in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip is headed off yet again.

#### Under a wet umbrella

LINA MARCHEITE sometimes carries an umbrella when she looks after children in a kindergarten in Kalandia Camp, in the occupied West Bank. She sometimes has to wear a raincoat because of water leaking through the roof and the 711 children are often sent home because of snow, or rain.

Five kerosene stoves heat the kindergarten, but this is not enough. The walls are damp, fully saturated with moisture.

The UNRWA building in which Miss Marchette works was scheduled for demolition five years ago. Nearby is the Kalandia girls



Walls of this mud-brick school near Damascus are crumbling from erosion... another school needing urgent maintenance or replacement.

built in 1956 with a roof of corrugated zinc sheets. He was never able to adjust to the environment of a refugee camp and gradually his health deteriorated. He is unable to support himself or his family and their home continues to fall apart.

#### Cold in winter, hot in summer

FIVE SCHOOLS serving 3,111 refugee children at Ein El-Hilweh

accumulates in pools. Fortunately for some at the school, UNRWA is building 24 new classrooms to replace two of the old schools, but the remaining three schools in the compound remain because of lack of money.

#### Third home in danger

"IT SEEMS we shall lose our home for the third time," says Mrs. Zahra Mohammad Abu

with a one-room cement block shelter. Later the Abu Dbeibehs added a room of mud brick with a wooden ceiling where their 31-year-old daughter now lives. The walls of the shelter are cracking but the family has no money for repairs and UNRWA has only \$5,110 to assist many needy refugees with shelter repairs in the whole area.

The story is the same in Gaza and Jordan: leaking roofs, broken windows, cracking walls...

#### Current financial position

UNRWA ENTERED 1982 with a plan for expenditure of \$265 million. This has since been reduced to \$254 million, partly by deferring some staff cost increases and deleting others. Expected income for the year is estimated at about \$186, leaving a budgetary deficit of some \$64 million.

With this estimated deficit, UNRWA has placed an equivalent amount of budgeted work on its not-yet-approved list of services. At the top of this list is the education system and it cannot be continued beyond May/June unless the extra \$21 million is pledged.

Also on the not-yet-approved list are routine maintenance of buildings, school construction to prevent triple shifting, replacement of unsatisfactory school premises and self-help projects to enable refugees to pave pathways and overcome unhealthy drainage problems in refugee camps.

Other overdue work for which no funds are in sight includes the replacement of aging ambulances, school buses and trucks and the enlargement of overloaded health clinics.

#### Service deteriorating

UNRWA HAS always tried to keep its medical and educational programmes at least at the same level as those provided by host governments for their own citizens. But this is becoming harder to do because of budgetary problems.

The most immediate threat posed by UNRWA's financial problem is to the education programme. To deprive 339,000 boys and girls of schooling and throw some 10,000 teachers out of work would not only constitute a terrible human tragedy but could also create further instability in one of the most politically sensitive parts of the world.

#### No regular income

UNRWA WAS created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1950 to provide services to registered Palestine refugees. Because it was (and still is) a temporary organisation, no arrangements were made for UNRWA to receive a regular income. It was (and still is) expected to manage on voluntary contributions.

Thirty-two years later UNRWA finds itself with regional education, health and welfare systems which represent long-term commitments, without knowing whether it will have the funds necessary to honour them. The General Assembly is currently discussing the problem and its decisions are awaited on UNRWA's immediate financial crisis and its future funding.

— UNRWA feature



Bishara Ghasib (1905-1982)

## Bishara Ghasib dies at 77

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Bishara Ghasib died in Amman on Tuesday, at the age of 77.

Mr. Ghasib was born in Salt in 1905, and graduated with a bachelor of law degree from the Law Institute in Jerusalem in 1942. He held several ministerial portfolios in Jordan including the transport, finance and public works portfolios. He also served as a member of the Upper House of Parliament and Lower House of Parliament, and as president of the Civil Service Commission.

The late Mr. Ghasib started his career at the Ministry of Justice, where he spent some 24 years at various judicial posts, including 16 years as a judge at various courts. He also served as director of the Income Tax Department.

## Badran sees West Bankers on farmers' problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office on Monday a delegation representing farmers to the occupied West Bank, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The members of the delegation briefed Mr. Badran on the problem of exporting tomatoes from the West Bank to the East Bank. After listening to the delegation's point of view, Mr. Badran stressed the government's concern for the interests of the Arabs living in the occupied territories. Jordan is keen to support their steadfastness and protect the farmers and their agricultural produce, the paper added.

The West Bank delegation comprised Mr. Ma'zouz Al Masri, Mr. Wahid Al Masri, Mr. Sulaiman Al Saleh and a number of farmers.

## Malhas sees Karak hospital, talks of decentralisation

KARAK (Petra) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas visited on Tuesday the Karak government hospital, where he met with health directors in the governorate and hospital officials, and discussed with them ways of developing the hospital's services.

Dr. Malhas said the hospital should submit proposals to raise the standard of its services by expansion, specialization, participation in drawing up the hospital budget, cooperation with public and private bodies to speed the progress of work and supervision of health training programmes.

He said the ministry is currently working on organising the records of government hospitals through holding courses for hospital accountants. The courses are to train them on how to prepare budgets, so that each hospital could have its own budget. The ministry plans to form hospital councils and give the hospitals a certain degree of independence, to alleviate some of the burdens which the ministry is shouldering, he said.

Dr. Malhas also visited the assistant nurses' school at the hospital. He saw the progress of work there and was briefed on its needs. He also visited the x-ray section at the hospital, and the site which has been chosen for a new hospital, as well as two other proposed sites.

The health minister said designs for the 200-bed hospital will be drawn up within this year. The hospital's preliminary cost estimate is JD 5 million, he said. Dr. Malhas also visited the housing estate of the hospital's employees at Al Marj area.



Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni (fourth from left) inspects designs at an exhibition by students of the Intermediate University College here Tuesday. (Petra photo)

## College shows engineering class designs

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni opened on Tuesday the first engineering exhibition organised by the Intermediate University College.

The three-day exhibition includes engineering designs for a villa, a kindergarten, a mosque, a fire station, a commercial centre, a hotel, a student dormitory, a theatre and a home for the aged. It also includes architectural designs in stone, brick and ceramics, as well as a design for a water treatment plant.

The exhibition will also include electronic engineering designs illustrating television transmission and reception.

The aim of the exhibition programme is to train students in how to draw designs of projects needed to cope with the changing needs of the community, and ways of tackling the problems facing contemporary man.

Mayor Ajlouni toured the exhibition and saw the designs of the various projects on which studies were made.

## Higher commission on building code reviews project progress

AMMAN (Petra) — The higher commission on the Jordanian building code met on Tuesday under its chairman, Public Works Minister Awni Al Masri. The aim of the meeting was to define the outlines of the work of the permanent technical committee on the building code.

The aim of the review was to ensure that the 25-chapter building code be completed on a fixed date within agreed programmes, and to keep a constant watch on the chapters already completed.

The aim of the building code is to develop construction work and to raise its standards in terms of quality, specifications, designs and construction, to ensure public safety and health precautions.

The higher commission includes the ministers of transport, municipal and rural affairs and the environment and industry and trade; the mayor of Amman; the president of the National Planning Council; the directors of the Housing Corporation, the Housing Bank and the Royal Scientific Society; the deans of the engineering schools at the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, and the president of the Jordanian Engineers Association.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Foreign labour imports surge

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Labour has issued 852 work permits for non-Jordanian workers since the beginning of March, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. Ministry of Labour officials were quoted as saying that the number of foreign workers is increasing because contracts with foreign companies allow each company to import workers of its own nationality to work on its projects in Jordan.

### British M.P. due Saturday

AMMAN (J.T.) — British opposition Labour Party Member of Parliament Roland Moyle is due to arrive here on March 13, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. It said Mr. Moyle would pay a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Ministry of Information. A British embassy spokesman told the Jordan Times Mr. Moyle, whose plans were not yet definitely set, was in Islamabad on Tuesday. Mr. Moyle, an opposition front-bench spokesman, is "interested in the Middle East," the spokesman said.

### Soviet mufti message to Sharif

AMMAN (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif received at his office on Tuesday morning Soviet Ambassador in Amman Rafeek Nishanov, who conveyed a letter from the mufti of the Soviet Union, Di'uddin Babakhanov.

### NCC panels to meet on drafts

AMMAN (Petra) — The financial and legal committees of the National Consultative Council (NCC) will hold a joint meeting on Wednesday to discuss the draft income tax law. Finance Minister Salem Masadeh and Income Tax Department Director Abdullah Nsour will attend the meeting. The legal committee will also hold meetings on Thursday and Saturday, to discuss the civil aviation law and the landlord-tenant law, respectively. Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat will attend Thursday's session, and Mr. Masadeh Saturday's.

### Wadi Musa budget approved

MA'AN (J.T.) — Wadi Musa Municipality has ratified a 1982 budget of JD 372,000, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Tuesday. Municipality officials were quoted as saying that the largest part of the budget has been allocated for improving and developing the electricity network, expropriating land, opening new roads, completing the final phase of the government complex and the establishment of a public park in the 'Ain Musa area.

### Irbid labour course set

IRBID (Petra) — The labour education institute in Irbid will open its second course this year on Saturday. During the 10-day course, the 30 participants will receive lectures and instruction in labour legislation, Social Security, labour safety and the development of the labour movement. A similar three-week course, in which 60 students have participated, will end on Thursday.

### Kafr Assad plans water project

IRBID (Petra) — Kafr Assad Municipality in

Irbid Governorate has decided to refurbish the 15-kilometre water-pipe network of the town at a cost of JD 63,000. Work will begin next month. The municipality completed last month asphalted some 111,000 square metres of streets, and the construction of eight classrooms, at a cost of JD 20,000.

### Sharif condoles Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif sent a cable on Tuesday to Al Azhar University, extending his condolences on the death of the university's late rector, Sheikh Abdul Rahman Beissar.

### Ruseifa budgets numerous projects

ZARQA (Petra) — Ruseifa Municipality has submitted its 1982 budget to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Environment, totalling JD 850,000. The budget includes the implementation of several projects, including paving and asphalted new streets and constructing parks, as well as water and public utilities projects. Mayor Mohammad Faris Al Muftih said that the Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils has agreed to lend the municipality JD 300,000 to construct a complex for government buildings in the city and to establish a commercial market. Work will start on these projects within this month, he said.

### Zarqa mosques get olive trees

AMMAN (Petra) — The Zarqa District Awqaf Directorate, in cooperation with the district's Agriculture Directorate, has planted the squares of mosques in the district with olive trees. The aim of this step is to develop agricultural wealth, particularly in the arid areas of the district.

### Book thrown at bribe offerer

AMMAN (Petra) — The Military court has sentenced Abed Mustafa Al Unayzi to one-and-a-half months in prison and a fine of JD 10 for offering a bribe to a public servant, as well as for violating traffic regulations by parking his car in a prohibited place and for not having registered it.

### Shammout, Spanish aide confer

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Ministry Secretary General Amer Shammout received at his office Tuesday Spanish Ambassador in Amman Don Luis de Pedrosa. They discussed ways of strengthening relations between Jordan and Spain.

### Tarawneh inspects Azraq centres

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Defence Director General Maj. Gen. Khaled Al Tarawneh on Tuesday inspected the directorate's first aid centres at H-4, H-5 and Azraq. He also discussed the needs of these centres and the services they render. Gen. Tarawneh said that the directorate soon will take delivery of a new building in Azraq which will be used as civil defence headquarters in the area. He added that the directorate will also supply the H-4 centre with a fire-engine unit to render fire-fighting and first aid services.



Inadequate maintenance leaves its mark on leprous walls in clinics and classrooms. Replacement

of this school near Irbid, Jordan is four years overdue.

school, still in use but also scheduled for demolition. Forty to fifty girls are crowded into each dimly lit classroom. Some rooms have no windows.

In the camp there are 200 huts in need of repair. UNRWA provides minimal assistance to special hardship cases for shelter repairs. Bakr Ibrahim and his family, for example, live in two small rooms

camp near Sidon, Lebanon, share the same compound. Each classroom is an independent unit with access to each through a playground often ankle-deep in mud. The 30-year-old prefabricated structures are bitterly cold in winter and unbearably hot in summer.

The school playground is uneven and has no drainage, so rainwater seeps into classrooms or

Dbeibeh, a displaced refugee living in Sheich camp south of Damascus. The first time was in 1948 when she and her family fled from their home and farm in Houla near Tiberias to the Golan and then for a second time when hostilities resumed in 1967 to Sheich. Now her home in the camp is nearing collapse.

UNRWA provided the family



Fallen tiles can be replaced only once a year and the wind adds its share of damage to this UNRWA school at Bureij camp in the Gaza Strip.



# Jordan Times

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## GUEST EDITORIAL

By Tareq Masarweh

### What does oil do?

THE ARAB oil-money surplus has invoked U.S.-European prejudice against the Arabs, and mutilated the Arabs' image and that of the Arab homeland. In fact this money surplus is not very large because the price of Arab exported oil is less than the Netherlands' national product and a little more than that of Belgium.

The Arab money surplus is a problem because it is an "accidental" result, a chancey movable asset and because it is not the outcome of any human efforts. It is a problem because it controls its owners and because it is deposited in an octopus-like market whose head is in Washington and whose tentacles are in Europe. It is also a problem because it is a mere figure in bank records. We sell the oil and then buy consumer goods and a role in the local political game with a bit of the price. But the major part of the money remains in bank records and telex tapes.

At lot of Arabs tackle this subject rancorously; or they take it as an excuse for national dissidence. We deal with it amicably because it is our belief that money is the result of human endeavour, thought, culture and education. We believe that money is the means for creating a capable, strong and modern Arab World.

We are not suggesting that this surplus should be channelled into the pockets of poorer Arabs because we believe that giving the Arab a plough, seeds and a scythe is far more beneficial than giving him a loaf of bread. The fact is that the status of poorer Arabs is very bad because the Arabs are not able to exploit even a tenth of this money surplus.

What is needed is an Arab "Marshall Plan" to exploit money and efforts in a beneficial way. There is not a single productive project in the Arab World that yields less profit than that of U.S. bond issues payable in the year 2005.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

### The French connection

AL RA'I: In his interview with the U.S. News and World Report magazine, His Majesty King Hussein highlighted the intolerable situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip where Israeli occupation authorities are violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and adopting inhuman methods in dealing with these people.

The King has time and again warned against this situation which has now resulted in the popular rising of our kinfolk in the West Bank. This will neither be the first nor the last upheaval to be caused by Israeli terrorism which the Palestinian people confront firmly and steadfastly because they believe in their right to self-determination.

It is needless to say that the actions of repression practised by the Israelis in the occupied territories express their arrogant and rancorous intentions to subdue and displace our people. These actions prove that Israel does not care for peace in the least and that what concerns it is usurping Palestinian territories and getting rid of the Palestinian people.

It is clear that this wave of violent Israeli terrorism has taken place only a few days after President Mitterrand's official visit to Israel. What is taking place in the occupied lands poses a question worthy of being considered by Paris: How should the Arabs view France which has stretched out the hand of friendship to Israel while our steadfast people in the occupied territories are facing the guns of the Israeli aggressor? Should Israel be rewarded with a French nuclear reactor, weapons and political support in Africa?

This upheaval means that the Palestinian people will never stop their struggle to restore their lands and determine their future.

### Will Reagan retract again?

AL DUSTOUR: Despite what is being said about U.S. envoy Philip Habib's success in containing the volatile situation in southern Lebanon and in what he called the parties' desire to maintain the cease-fire agreement, this does not exclude the possibility of Israel attacking southern Lebanon any time the Tel Aviv authorities see that such an attack is suitable for achieving their political and military goals.

Israel promised the U.S. envoy not to attack southern Lebanon unless it was provoked to do so. This means that it retained the prerogative of fixing the date of its aggression. Israel can always fabricate an excuse to attack Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance. This is why President Reagan sent Menachem Begin a message calling on Israel to prove that it is serious in seeking the establishment of peace. This sentence angered Begin and drove him to threaten to sever contacts with Washington if the U.S. president did not retract the content of his message.

The U.S. message to Begin is surprising because Israel's aggression on Arab citizens, disavowal of Palestinian rights, confiscation of lands, annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights and the establishment of settlements on Arab lands should have been more than enough to convince the U.S. administration that Israel does not want peace. The United States should carry out its duties as a superpower. It should work towards the achievement of just peace. But we doubt that the United States will bear its responsibilities as a superpower because experience has taught us that the U.S. administration always retracts any acceptable stand under Tel Aviv's fury and bullying.

Now, will Reagan retract his message or will this be the spark that will explode war in southern Lebanon?

## SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

# Amman Chamber of Industry

By Dr. Awn Rifai

The Amman Chamber of Industry provides a variety of services to the local industrial businesses, which include information regarding the manufacturers and their products. It also assists its members in establishing the necessary contacts to promote their sales. Unfortunately, the activities of the Chamber have been hampered due to the lack of adequate financial resources, which has resulted in the curtailment of many aspects of its work.

The Chamber of Industry is one of the most important bodies of the private sector in Jordan. It represents the industrial concerns in the country and caters for their needs. The chamber acts as a liaison between the industrial establishments on the one hand, and the public sector and foreign parties on the other. It is run by a small, albeit efficient, number of staff who are eager to expand their activities in order to encompass the whole spectrum of the industries' interests. The Chamber's staff, who are mainly administrative employees, should be complemented by technical personnel capable of handling the technical aspects of the work. If the budget does not permit the recruitment of such personnel, then it is advisable to figure out an arrangement in which competent consultation and advice can be provided to the industries on an ad hoc basis.

The Chamber issues a number of publications consisting of information booklets as well as reports on specific studies undertaken on certain facets of industrial development. This line of activity should be enhanced and more research on related topics should be carried out. But the

problem of the Chamber is quite understandable — increasing the activities necessitates the availability of financial backing, yet the budget is tight. If sufficient funds were secured, the Chamber could perform studies on investment, labour, training, raw and intermediate materials, management and productivity, factory layout and equipment, administrative and technical control, marketing, regulatory measures, and collaboration with other Arab countries on issues of mutual benefit.

One of the ideas the Chamber is currently trying to encourage is that of the utilisation of public savings in industrial investment. The augmentation of this type of investment can be administered either by direct contribution of the public in industrial ventures, or through the savings accounts in

the banks and other financial organisations. It is worth mentioning here that in 1981 the Industrial Development Bank offered loans amounting to JD569 thousand for professional businessmen, and financed two big projects through bank consortia formed of banks, financial organisations, and insurance firms. The provision of loans by local bank consortia is considered to be an encouraging omen in the financial and economic structure in the country.

Jordan is on the verge of entering a new phase of industrial development. The Chamber of Industry has an essential role to play in dealing with the myriad issues connected with this development. Every support should be forwarded to the Chamber in order to enable it to diversify its functions and render science-based services to the industrial community.

## GCC profile

The following article is the full text of a background-briefing paper prepared for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London.

It must be stressed that the paper is not and should not be construed or quoted as an expression of British Government policy.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) consists of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It was formally established at Abu Dhabi on May 26, 1981 when the statutes were initiated by the six heads of state. Between them, the GCC member states have a population of some 11 million and control over 70 per cent of the Middle East's known oil reserves. Their combined oil revenues are running at around \$450 million a day. The six states have similar political systems, a common language, religion and culture based on a shared history, and each is at much the same stage of economic and social development.

To avoid unnecessary offence to Iran, the organisation has the formal title of "The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf". The other Gulf state, Iraq, has not been included, partly because of the war with Iran but also because of her different political system.

The institutions of the GCC are a Supreme Council, comprising heads of state and required to meet twice a year;

A Council of Ministers (Foreign Ministers) to meet four times a year; and

A Secretariat at Riyadh, under a Secretary-General (currently Abdullah Bishara, Kuwait's former Ambassador to the U.N.).

Five ministerial committees have been set up to deal with: economic and social planning; financial, economic and trade policy; industrial policy; oil co-ordination (pricing and production); and social and cultural services. Any disputes will be resolved by a body attached to the Supreme Council.

### Background and objectives

The GCC brings together within a formal framework the process of cooperation that has been developing between the six states over the past decade, bilaterally and multilaterally. Ministerial meetings and joint councils have been held fairly regularly to exchange information and co-ordinate planning on various political, social and economic issues. The GCC will further this process, with the long-term objective of economic and social integration.

The main themes in the communiqué issued by the first Supreme Council meeting (Abu Dhabi, May 1981) were:

That the GCC was not an alliance aimed at any other state in the region, and that its establishment was an important step towards the wider unity of Arab states; and

That closer cooperation amongst the Gulf states was a major contribution to regional security and would reduce the risk of outside interference.

Commenting on the meeting, Qatar's information minister said: "Cooperation between the Gulf states began immediately after independence... with the GCC we shall be able to go at a higher throttle."

The traditional rulers of the Gulf states have been increasingly concerned lest the Gulf become a focus of super-power conflict arising from recent events in Afghanistan and Iran. The Abu Dhabi Summit affirmed the six states' "absolute rejection of any foreign interference in the region from whatever sources." On external issues, the aim is to pursue non-aligned policies and to maintain traditional links with the West without antagonising the USSR. Oil policies will undoubtedly be co-ordinated more closely in future. The exchange of information between member states on such matters as internal security should also help to strengthen regional stability. Events in Iran are said to have fostered revolutionary ideals among some of the Shi'ite communities in the Gulf states. The GCC and the Gulf states individually were quick to support Bahrain following the disclosure in December 1981 of a plot to overthrow the present regime and establish an Islamic Republic. Each of the six states has, moreover, a high proportion of imported labour (mainly from the poorer Arab countries and from Asia), a factor which increases the risks of social unrest at a time of rapid social change.

Defence considerations were not of primary importance in the decision to set up the GCC. However, the Gulf states have long recognised their vulnerability to any major attack. Their combined military forces amount to only half the size of those of Iran or Iraq, and their effectiveness could undoubtedly be enhanced by closer co-ordination. In recent years there have been several worrying developments in the region. These include the Soviet military build-up in South Yemen and Ethiopia, the Iranian Revolution (which effectively terminated Iran's former role as the policeman of the Gulf), the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (December 1979), and repercussions of the Iran-Iraq war such as the bombing of Kuwaiti oil installations. Strong statements by both the United States and the USSR on matters affecting the security of the Gulf, and the conclusion in August of a tripartite treaty between Libya, Ethiopia and South Yemen, have further fuelled local anxieties. And so the second meeting of the GCC Supreme Council, held at Riyadh on Nov. 10/11, 1981, decided that defence ministers should meet in January 1982 to discuss military cooperation.

Overseas reactions

The establishment of the GCC has been welcomed by the Arab League and by the Islamic Conference Organisation. The Gulf states wish to preserve the status quo in the region and to avoid pressures for formal alignment with either East or West is widely respected. Many world leaders have welcomed the decision to strengthen regional cooperation. The USSR, supported by its Arabian client state, South Yemen, immediately criticised the formation of the GCC as an "imperialist manoeuvre" aimed at splitting the Arab World. Soviet commentators tried to show a link with the American proposal (formulated in the aftermath of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan) for a rapid deployment force. However, with the GCC gaining respectability in Arab circles, this Soviet criticism faded.

Iran initially confined her response to a warning that she would take direct action against any organisation which threatened her security. Of late, Iranian broadcasts have adopted a more hostile line, describing the GCC as an "unfriendly alliance". Iraq expressed the hope that the union would not lead to the "formation of groups and gatherings" but would help strengthen the Arab Nation as a whole.

### Riyadh Summit

The Supreme Council's second meeting, in Riyadh, which ended on Nov. 14, 1981, was largely concerned to secure a unified approach to the Arab League Summit at Fez (Morocco). The communiqué reflected the traditional caution of the six Gulf states, with standard references to Palestinian rights and a call for an end to inter-Arab differences. It requested Saudi Arabia to present her eight-point Middle East peace plan to the Arab summit in Morocco, but the Council stopped short of formally endorsing the plan itself. The communiqué reiterated that "the security and stability of the Gulf are the responsibility of the Gulf states themselves", and stressed of the need to keep international rivalries out of the region. An economic agreement was signed and is intended to provide, amongst other things, for free trade and the integration of industrial projects, transport and communications, and financial and banking regulations.

### Prospects

In establishing the GCC, the six Gulf states have demonstrated a political will for integration. It may not be easy to reconcile all their interests, but progress can probably be made in some areas. So far the main task has been to establish an organisation to carry forward the process of regional cooperation. Future development will be on a cautious step-by-step basis. On Nov. 25, 1981 the GCC secretary-general indicated that the Council would at this stage be concentrating on the implementation of the economic agreement, "because this is the main factor that would link the people of the Gulf and boost joint action by further practical steps."



## China hacks down bureaucracy

By Colina MacDougall

China has embarked on a massive programme to sweep away tens of thousands of government and party officials in a land where the bureaucrats have been digging in for 2,000 years.

China has begun a purge which may sweep away tens of thousands of officials in the government and party and even tackle the sensitive task of retiring elderly or politically out-of-step officers from the armed forces. This is likely to be the biggest cleanout of the bureaucracy since the Cultural Revolution.

Although vice-premier Bo Yibo denied last month that it was a purge in the Western sense, since it was focused on administrative problems, it is clear that the purpose also includes weeding out the politically undesirable. "Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping has described it as another revolution," he said.

This reform will not only be directed at left-wingers remaining from the days of the Gang of Four. A local paper in north-east China said early this month that former left-wingers had become liberals and that under the new

open-door policy towards the West, liberalism had become a greater threat.

Retirements, dismissals and criticisms have already begun. In the third ministry of machine building (which takes charge of aviation), 269 officials have resigned, following the resignation of seven vice-ministers last month.

In Hubei province in Central China the provincial party committee has demoted more than a third of the officials directly under its jurisdiction to work in factories as a means of "handling violations of financial discipline."

In the army, Yang Yong, the deputy chief of staff, has criticised a number of party officers by name (a severe disgrace in China) for "unhealthy tendencies."

The usually reliable Hong Kong Communist Press has reported that in Peking alone the government bureaucracy will be pruned by a third and the number of vice-premiers, currently 13, to two or three.

The proliferating commissions, set up in recent years to supervise the ministries, may be abolished and hundreds of vice-ministers lose their jobs.

This campaign is at least partially the brainchild of Deng Xiaoping, who since 1978 has insisted on the need to clean up the bureaucracy.

According to Premier Zhao

Ziyang, the purge is already proceeding smoothly. He told Y.K. chairman of the International Union of Independent Tankers, recently: "The key... is how to raise work efficiency. So we've got to simplify our government structure. Originally we estimated this would be very difficult, but it now appears the work is going much more smoothly than expected."

The onset of the campaign was signalled last November by a volley of quotations from Deng attacking inefficiency and corruption, published in the party journal, Red Flag.

Unofficial predictions in Peking are that Zhao Ziyang will handle the streamlining of the government, while Hu Yaobang, the party chairman, will deal with the party, and Deng — who is the chairman of the Party's Military Commission and thus the highest army authority — will take on the military.

The first target is inefficiency and overstaffing, which are endemic in all walks of life in China. The government bureaucracy has been shuffling paper for 2,000 years and the coming of the communists in 1949 made no more than an initial dent.

The military is a more effective body, but the antiquity of its senior officers and the reluctance of some to abandon Maoist concepts

put it in the firing line of Deng's reform.

Deng has been gunning for both the civilian and military branches of the party since early 1980. "Quite a number of the 38 million party members are not up to the mark," he said then.

The vices of the civilian party are bad — arrogance, irresponsibility and corruption, he noted — but those of the army worse. At the People's Liberation Army political work conference in June 1978, Deng said: "Lin Biao and the Gang of Four have seriously destroyed the army's work style, and their pernicious influence has taken deep root."

The success or failure of the campaign will depend on whether Deng and his supporters can clean up the bureaucracy without triggering bitter feuds. While the enormous scope of the campaign makes this on the face of it unlikely, at least the elderly can be shuffled off painlessly.

This will be the easy party. Far more menacing will be the threat presented by thousands of outraged senior and mid-level officials facing dismissal or demotion back to blue collar jobs — especially if, as good Maoists, they share a view of Deng and his like as dangerous liberals.

— Financial Times news feature



*Oil prices will fall further unless OPEC cuts output*

W. German mark	.... 146.1/147.1
Swiss franc	..... 185.9/187
French franc	..... 57.1/57.4
Italian lire	..... 27.1/27.3
(for every 100)	..... 146.2/147.1
Japanese yen	..... 133.4/134.2
(for every 100)	..... 79.1/79.6
Dutch guilder	..... 59.7/60.1
Belgian franc	..... 57.1/57.4
Swedish crown	..... 133.4/134.2

10	90	Apples (Golden) .....	250	200
10	170	Apples (Double Red) .....	250	200
30	100	Apples (Starken) .....	250	200
70	140	Lemons .....	150	120
20	100	Oranges (Shamouti) .....	220	160
20	280	Oranges (local) .....	140	100
60	220	Oranges (Valencia) .....	110	80
20	600	Cauliflowers (white) .....	140	100
80	400	Parsley .....	240	240
80	80	Bonelli .....	210	160
90	70	Carrot .....	170	140
50	120	Turnips .....	160	120
00	80	Grapefruit .....	110	80
30	260	Beet .....	120	100
30	400	Lettuce [a head] .....	110	70
60	200	Mandarin oranges .....	300	240
25	180	Cauliflowers (local) .....	160	160
40	360	Radish .....	150	150
60	600	Sage .....	900	300
30	120	Chervil .....	100	70
40	120	Coriander .....	320	320
50	110			



## SPORTS

## Jordan to participate in 4th Arab cross-country tourney

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in the fourth Arab cross-country tournament which is organised by the Bahraini Sports Association under the supervision of the Arab Sports Federation. The tournament will begin in Manama, capital of Bahrain on Friday.

Jordan will be represented in the tournament by the Jordanian national team under Mohammad Al Tariqi, and Fayez Jum'ah, Ali Khalifah, Shukri Abdul Hamid and Khalil Suleiman as members.

The Jordanian delegation will leave Amman on Wednesday to participate in the tournament. Other Arab countries participating in the tournament are Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Palestine, Lebanon, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Yemen, Tunisia and Bahrain.

## Soviet Pisarenko, 'strongest man on earth'

MOSCOW (R) — Superheavyweight weightlifter Anatoly Pisarenko of the Soviet Union, emphasised his right to be called the "strongest man on earth" by setting two world records at the weekend.

Pisarenko, 24, competing in a competition in Frunze, lifted a total of 455 kilograms, smashing his own previous world record of 447.5 kg.

## Hagler - Hearnshaw showdown 'all set'

DETROIT (A.P.) — A showdown between undisputed world middleweight champion Marvin Hagler and challenger Thomas Hearnshaw is "all set" for May 24 at the Pontiac Silverdome, Hearnshaw's manager said.

"There are a few minor details left in the contract, but everything has been agreed to," Hearnshaw's manager Emanuel Steward said. Official announcement of the fight will be made next week in New York, the Detroit Free Press reported Tuesday, adding that Hagler could earn 3 million and Hearnshaw 2 million dollars.

Hearnshaw is a stablemate of William "Caveman" Lee, whom Hagler knocked out in 1:07 of the first round to their championship match up Sunday at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

## South American rugby team arrives in S. Africa

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (A.P.) — A 42-player South American rugby squad arrived Tuesday for a seven-match tour of South Africa, including two tests.

The South American 'A' and 'B' teams are made up of 31 Argentines, five Uruguayans, four Chileans and two Paraguayans.

Team manager Martinez Baente said they would have their first practice later Tuesday.



## Coe named 1st winner of Jesse Owens award

NEW YORK (R) — Sebastian Coe of Britain was Tuesday named the first winner of the Jesse Owens award as the world's outstanding amateur athlete in 1981.

Coe, the Olympic, 1,500 metres champion and world record holder for 800 metres, 1,000 metres and the mile, will come to New York to receive the award on March 18, the sponsors said.

Coe was an overwhelming choice for the award, receiving 50 first-place votes in a worldwide ballot of sports journalists and sports authorities.

American Ed Moses, the world 400 metres hurdles record holder, and sprinter Evelyn Ashford each received six votes but Moses came second with more second-place votes.

American swimmer Mary T. Meagher and Soviet gymnast Olga Bichirova each received one first-place vote.

The award is named after Jesse Owens, winner of four gold medals at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, who died two years ago.

## Spain's coach claims: 'We are capable of anything, even winning the World Cup'

MADRID (A.P.) — Spain's history in the World Cup has not been brilliant, but after a good year in international play, it is one of the favourites to make the finals of the 1982 World Soccer Cup on its home soil this summer.

"If by June we have a young, physically fit and technically well prepared team—and we are working hard on this—we are capable of anything, even winning the cup," said coach Jose Emilio Santamaria said.

Spain has played in previous World Cups. Its best showings were in 1934 in Italy, where it was eliminated by Italy in the quarter-finals, and in 1950 in Brazil, where it finished fourth, behind Uruguay, Brazil and Sweden.

In the three other championships, in Chile (1962), England (1966) and Argentina (1978), Spain was eliminated in the first phase.

Santamaria became national manager in 1980. A Uruguayan-born, Spanish-nationalised citizen, Santamaria, at 53, has a great record as a player himself. He won 46 caps (games played with the national All-Star team) with his native country and 16 with Spain. He was a Real Madrid player for nine years—in the club's great days when it won the European Cup of Champions five times in a row from 1956 to 1960.

"We have the players and we have the quality to win the world competition," Santamaria said.

He says the Spanish will have something in their favour that the 23 other participating teams will not have—the advantage of playing at home.

"We need the support of our

people," Santamaria said. "We want them to show it as strongly as they can."

Pablo Porta, president of the Spanish Soccer Federation, said Spanish fans should be "a wave of fury."

"Fury" is the name given to the mascot adopted by the Spanish team—a fighting bull dressed as a player. Fury figures in Santamaria's preparation.

"We want the Spanish team to be aggressive," Santamaria said. "That today is as fundamental to success in soccer as basic technique."

He predicted the Spanish team can win through the first phase, "provided we play soccer as if it were for the first time." The second phase will be "serious, but not too difficult," he added.

If Spain reaches the semifinal it would possibly have to face West Germany.

"The German team is very strong, very compact, but I have seen the Germans play and we can beat them," Santamaria said.

The final? "Well, it would be a difficult match because of the responsibility," he said.

Spain's first matches will be played in Valencia against Honduras, Yugoslavia and Northern Ireland.

Honduras will be Spain's first opponent June 16. The home team meets Yugoslavia June 20 and Northern Ireland June 25.

These matches will be played at Valencia's Luis Casanova Stadium, which seats about 50,000.

"Logically we should advance into the next phase, along with Yugoslavia," Santamaria said.

But he added the game against Yugoslavia is crucial.

"We must win that one," Santamaria said. "Our future depends on this match."

As the organising country of the World Cup, Spain automatically qualified for the competition.

Last year was good for the Spanish team. It played 14 friendly matches in Europe and Latin America with seven victories, three draws and four defeats, scoring 19 goals and conceding 14.

"We have sought to meet in these friendly matches teams recognised as strong in the two continents," Santamaria said.

"We have played strong teams, with selections that are likely to be in the World Cup in Spain, such as Belgium, Austria, England, France and Poland, and we have not lost any of them."

Spain, however, lost friendly matches to two other World Cup teams, 0-3 to Hungary and 0-1 to Brazil.

Spain played beat Scotland 3-0 in Valencia Feb. 24 in the first of three pending warm-up matches before the World Cup.

The two other matches are scheduled for March 24 against

Wales in Valencia, and April 28, against Switzerland, in Valencia or Bern.

At the end of the Spanish League Championship, Santamaria plans to give his 22 players a week's rest. "I want them to relax, to rest a little from the season," he said. Then he will take them to a winter holiday in the Pyrenees mountains to get clean, fresh air for 12 days.

"Afterwards, when we go in May to our training site in Valencia, our work will be intensive, both physically and tactically, for one month."

The defence is expected to include Jose Antonio Camacho (Real Madrid), 26, with 26 caps, Miguel Tendillo (Valencia), 20, 17 caps, Jose Ramon Alexanco (Barcelona), 25, 26 caps, and Rafael Gordillo (Betis), 24, 26 caps.

They form what has been considered by sports writers here as an iron quartet, perhaps one of the strongest defence lines in the World Cup.

## Darmstadt marathon nurse hopes to win Olympic gold



DARMSTADT (DaD) — Charlotte Teske from Darmstadt, Federal Republic of Germany, won the Florida women's marathon in 2 hours 19 min. 1 sec., a national record and the world's best time this season. She is a 31-year-old nurse who works nights in the Darmstadt children's hospital and has trained up to three hours a day since 1972. The women's marathon will be an Olympic discipline for the first time in 1984. She hopes to win gold.

## Nigeria prepares to settle an old score with Algeria

TRIPOLI (R) — Nigeria, the defending champions, have a score to settle with Algeria when they meet in a preliminary group two match in the African Nations Soccer Cup in Benghazi Wednesday.

They were beaten twice by the Algerians last October—2-1 in Constantine and 2-0 in Lagos—defeats which cost them a place in the World Cup finals in Spain this summer.

The Nigerians' last major success over the Algerians was in the final of the Nations Cup in Lagos two years ago when they won 3-0.

Haji Sekkal, head of the Algerian Football Federation, said: "If there are any doubts that we did not merit our World Cup victory over Nigeria then we have to

prove them unfounded in this competition."

The form book suggests another Algerian win. While they looked sharp and well organised in their opening match in the competition against Zambia, which they won 1-0, Nigeria were unimpressive when they beat Ethiopia 3-0.

Nigeria's new-look side lacked co-ordination against the Ethiopians and had to rely on superior fitness to see them through.

Team officials attributed their poor showing to the waterlogged pitch. But Algeria played well on the same pitch.

The Nigeria-Algeria match will be preceded by a clash between Ethiopia and Zambia.

## ISF gives further backing to Taiwan's plans to fly national flag

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (R) — The International Softball Federation (ISF) have given further backing to Taiwan's plans to fly their national flag at the Women's World Softball Championship in Taipei in July.

Mainland China have objected to the use of the Taiwanese flag and anthem, but Don Porter, American Secretary-General of the ISF said: "Our congress in Hawaii last year approved a resolution that would allow the host nation to raise its national flag at the opening ceremonies. I have just sent a telex to Peking reiterating that position."

Porter said that formal invitations were being sent to the ISF's 46 member countries and added: "I am optimistic that the tournament will go ahead in Taipei."

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# FEATURES

## Alfa Romeo manufactures cars, makes news and faces problems too

Rupert Cornwell looks at how the Italian car company is facing up to the problems that have kept it in deficit since 1973.

ROME — "Our trouble is our name," says Sig. Corrado Innocenti, managing director of Alfa Romeo. "It always makes news." And the news lately from the company, whose name more than any other, perhaps, symbolises for the world the Italian way with motor cars, has been bad.

In recent months lay-offs, production cuts and losses have produced a rash of headlines proclaiming that Alfa's last chance was at hand, and indeed questioning its very prospects of survival as an independent concern. Alfa has been thrown into starker relief by the unmistakable recovery taking shape at Fiat, the biggest Italian car manufacturer, which less than two years ago itself was peering into the abyss.

Nor are Alfa's difficulties a novelty. The state-controlled group, a subsidiary of IRI, the public sector conglomerate, has been making losses since 1973.

In the generally favourable year of 1980, its northern operations at Arese, near Milan, where the more powerful Alfa Romeo and Giulietta models are produced, returned to the black. But that tiny profit of L1 billion (\$790,000) was swamped by a L76 billion deficit at Alfa Sud, and the problem-plagued plant at Pomigliano d'Arco, near Naples.

Last year's figures have not been finalised. But the down-turn in international car markets, especially outside Italy, meant that production dropped by about 5 per cent from 1980's 220,000 units. Sales declined by 5 per cent by volume, although in money terms they climbed by about 6 per cent to the equivalent of \$1.6 billion. Results, says Sig. Innocenti, will be "slightly worse" than in 1980.

Broadly Alfa's troubles have been threefold: one international, one national, and one very much its own. Throughout the world, car companies have been having a hard time, and to a large extent Alfa's fortunes are tied up to a mirage-like upturn in global demand.

Even the Italian market, the only one in Western Europe to grow last year, is likely to be weaker in 1982, and Sig. Innocenti sees little chance of a real recovery before 1983.

Matters have been made worse by the price problems suffered by Italian motor companies, as the lira's membership of the European Monetary System (EMS) has prevented higher inflation and costs from being offset by a depreciation of the exchange rate.

West German manufacturers in particular have been helped by an undervalued D-mark, as competition intensified for a bigger slice of the still-growing Italian market. It has been no coincidence that while Alfa's share of domestic deliveries dropped from

7 per cent to 6.5 per cent in 1981, those of its direct rivals, BMW, Audi and Mercedes, grew among them by about the same amount.

For similar reasons export sales have been "a disaster," in Sig. Innocenti's words. "The real issue was: either inflation had to come down in Italy, or we had to push productivity up." Belatedly there are signs of improvement on the first front. It is on the second that Alfa has been forced to act, although long after other major manufacturers.

Fiat's own cure began in autumn 1980, when it won a battle to lay off 23,000 workers, many of whom will never return to its car plants. Now Alfa has adopted, in relative terms, even more draconian measures. It aims to lay off 14,000 workers, a third of its total workforce, for the entire year. Production is unlikely to exceed 200,000 units, against capacity of 280,000.

What happens thereafter is not clear. "After 1982, we'll see. We'll look at the likely market, and then decide how many people we need." In the meantime, Alfa has successfully applied to be declared in a "state of crisis" by the government. The term is less dramatic than it sounds, and basically entitles it to even more state aid to pay laid-off workers.

That, however, is only a first step. Another means of improving both productivity and quality will be the system of "work groups" shortly to be introduced at Alfa's plants. Instead of the old-fashioned assembly line, groups of 10 to 15 workers will interchangeably carry out a similar number of functions. The result should be more varied and interesting work for the workers and a chance to develop greater skills.

The other keys to its future are the co-operation agreements with Nissan of Japan and Fiat. On its own, Alfa is planning to invest L1,700 billion in the next five years, with some help probably

from the special fund for technological innovation just approved by the Italian Parliament. That alone, however, will not be enough.

Near Avellino in southern Italy, the plant of Alfa Romeo, the jointly owned company of Alfa and Nissan, is under construction. The first cars will emerge from its production lines in the second half of 1983. By 1985 output will be running at the target of 60,000 units a year, lifting Alfa's overall capacity to 300,000 units or more.

Long before that, however, by the spring of this year, Sig. Innocenti hopes to have signed a technical agreement with Fiat, for the joint purchase and/or production of certain large components, including gear-box, transmission, and suspension equipment. The importance of the deal is as symbolic as it is practical.

Above all the deal epitomises the awareness of the two groups that times are too serious to continue the pointless, costly unwillingness to collaborate. No one would the Alfa-Nissan link more bitterly than Fiat: but economies of scale are essential for the Italian motor industry as for any other, and joint ventures in the components field are the most obvious answer.

The fruits could have a major bearing on the improvements to Alfa's model range planned over the next four years. In that period, apart from the new Alfa-Nissan small and medium-sized cars, the company plans to introduce a new range of Alfa Romeo and Alfa Romeo models, and give a big facelift to the wedged-shaped Giulietta model.

But Sig. Innocenti — as well as Fiat for that matter — is adamant that co-operation will not be a first step on the road to the takeover of Alfa by its bigger Italian brother. "There will be no financial links. Alfa Romeo will continue as a sovereign, independent company."

— Financial Times news feature

## Thais: Not in war, but live like fish out of water

By Vithoon Amorn  
Reuters

KOK SABAENG, Thailand — The wooden house damaged by a Vietnamese shell reminds residents of this Thai border village of the danger of living near the war in Kampuchea.

Two Thai villagers were killed and three injured early last month when the shell, aimed at a Khmer Rouge guerrilla stronghold just inside Kampuchea, slammed into the house.

This village, some 270 kilometres east of Bangkok, is one of half a dozen situated dangerously close to a big guerrilla base at Phnom Malai, where the Khmer Rouge, ousted from power in Phnom Penh by a Vietnamese-led invasion in Dec. 1978, are battling a new Vietnamese dry season offensive.

Senior Thai military officials said seven Thais had been killed and 18 injured by stray Vietnamese shells in the first six weeks of the year.

The increasing number of Vietnamese shells landing on Thai soil has prompted some villagers in the area to comply with a government request for the temporary evacuation of their homes.

A total of 732 Thais, mainly women and children, have moved to a new and safer village 20 kilometres north of here.

Maj. Gen. Somkid Chongpayuha, commander of Thailand's ninth army division which guards this part of the border, said more than 300 rocket, mortar and artillery shells hit the six Thai border villages in the first six weeks of 1982, most of them landing in paddy fields.

But he said he accepted the Vietnamese shells' assertion that such shellings were unintentional.

Thai army officers estimate that since mid-January the Vietnamese have committed more than two regiments or some 4,000 men to dislodging the Khmer Rouge from Phnom Malai and other rugged hills south of here.

They say the Vietnamese-led forces, taking advantage of improved dry season mobility, are using long-range artillery to pound suspected guerrilla positions almost daily.

But they question the effectiveness of the attacks in destroying the vast rebel sanctuary. Thai officials say the Khmer Rouge, with their backs to the Thai border, probably had about the same number of men as the Vietnamese but had split into small groups to minimise casualties from enemy shelling.

The 30,000-strong Khmer Rouge guerrilla force is the biggest of three groups opposing an estimated 200,000 Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese led the 1978 invasion and helped establish the pro-Hanoi Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh.

The guerrillas in the area are accompanied by some 60,000 Kampuchean civilians and Khmer Rouge families. Many of them occasionally slip into Thailand when Vietnamese pressure grows.

Thai officials say the Vietnamese have tried to send infiltrators to block Khmer Rouge escape routes but their efforts have been largely unsuccessful. Despite a general increase in fighting, the officials believe the Khmer Rouge will survive the latest Vietnamese campaign.

General Somkid said no armed foreign troops were allowed into Thailand, and civilians seeking refuge were pushed back into Kampuchea as soon as the shelling subsided.

He said Thailand retaliated with artillery fire whenever the Vietnamese appeared to be firing indiscriminately and endangering Thai lives and property.

In one incident two weeks ago, the Thai military said 300 Vietnamese-led troops advanced one kilometre into Thai territory in hot pursuit of a band of Khmer Rouge guerrillas south of here.

Five Thai border patrol police were killed in a clash with the Vietnamese intruders, who returned to Kampuchea the same day, they said.

## Dutch television pirates lose thriving business after legal battle

By Peter Millership

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch television viewers who had grown accustomed to late-night sex and feature films over the past two years are going to bed early these days.

Pirate broadcasters have been ousted from their usual nightly slot after the conventional stations have closed down.

Now instead of adventure or titillation on the screen there is just a drab grey card proclaiming "This channel is closed to pirates."

A law suit by the cinema union, which blames a huge decline in movie attendance on the pirates, resulted in a court ruling that films intended for the cinema must not be shown on television.

The decision has cut the pirates' audiences and advertising revenue and could herald the end for the free-wheeling broadcasters who in their heyday last year controlled up to 100 television stations with an audience of 1.5 million in The Netherlands.

The pirates thrived all over The Netherlands, but took on a folk-hero image in Amsterdam where they have battled with the authorities under the banner of free broadcasting.

Signals which do not threaten the cinemas are still allowed but many Amsterdam residents are disappointed by the disappearance of the late-night films they had become accustomed to.

An ingenious discovery first allowed the pirates into The Netherlands television network.

Broadcasting enthusiasts found that by using adapted video-tape recorders they could penetrate the cable system by which foreign programmes were transmitted into the homes of the multi-lingual Dutch.

The amateurs' discovery was soon capitalised upon by a well-organised band of entrepreneurs. The pirates successfully fought

off legal protests by such film distributors as Walt Disney and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and even clashed with local cinema owners in the streets.

The cinema union claimed that pirates stole feature films and made copies of them for broadcast, even before official premiers in The Netherlands.

The court decision means that a cable television company, acting on the court's instructions, blocks any film which the pirates try to screen.

The cinema union tried to have the pirate stations closed down at night but the court ruled that they should be able to transmit — but not films.

The Dutch government has been keen to crack down on the pirates, who break almost all the domestic broadcasting rules.

Under these regulations several independent organisations representing the main political, religious and cultural groups are given broadcasting time under a proportional representation system.

Before the pirates appeared mainly old, second-rate films were shown on Dutch television, so the introduction of modern box office successes was a welcome change.

The Dutch post office is constantly pursuing the pirate companies for breaking broadcasting laws but the pirates dodge officials by moving their transmitters and keeping studio and transmission activities separate.

If detected they face having their equipment confiscated and being fined.

In their heyday the stations even had their own programme magazine "De Piraat", which listed what was showing.

But now the magazine has been banned, the pirate films are being blocked and the Dutch viewer is having to settle for stolid official fare.

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NORPE  
AVVLE  
TRUFOH  
SUCCAUI



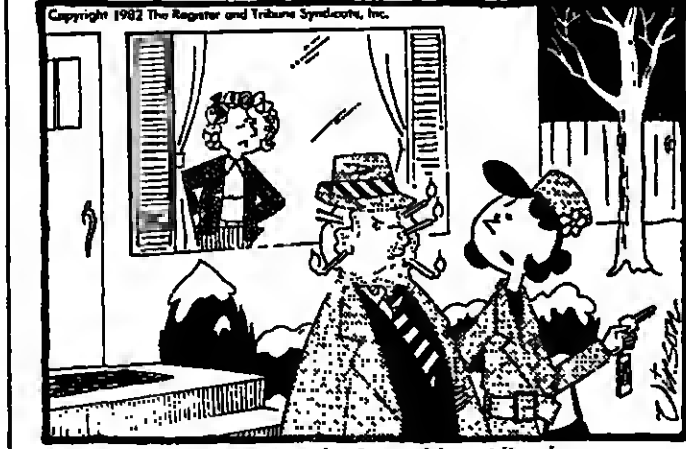
HOW THEY CLAPPED THEIR HANDS WHEN SHE SANG.

Answer here:     THEIR

Saturday's Jumbles: PIECE LARVA BOTTLE IMPORT  
Answer: As was to be expected, this was the grouch's favorite fruit—THE GRAB APPLE

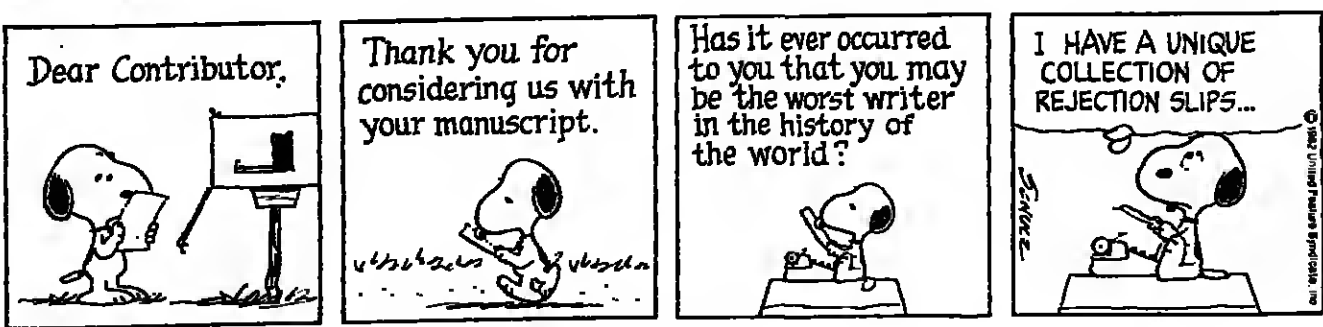
### THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson



"Well, it serves you right for asking Alice how many years each candle represented!"

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAR. 10, 1982

### YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have an opportunity to put in motion a plan of action that brings your creative talents into play. Problems that need to be eliminated can be quickly done at this time.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have to make a change in your plans if you wish to achieve the success you desire. Take stock in your finances.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You are able to improve conditions around your home, so get busy. Take extra steps to please family members.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Consult with experts in your field of endeavor so that you can improve your own routines. Do something thoughtful for loved one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Be certain to complete any tasks left undone. Listen to what an expert has to suggest about a business matter.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Do the thoughtful things that will increase goodwill with business associates. Make plans to improve your environment.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) If you clear the slate of present problems, you pave the way for a much brighter future. Enjoy social activities tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Handle any civic work early so that you can later be with good friends for social purposes. Strive to get ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Discuss future plans with a higher-up so you can advance more quickly and add to present prestige. Express happiness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have fine ideas that should be put in operation without delay. Obtain the data you need to further your career.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Handle routine duties in an efficient manner and gain the respect of others. Take needed health treatments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Before making any new deals with associates, make sure you clear the slate of present obligations. Be logical.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Attend to duties you really enjoy and you can make much progress now. Show more appreciation for others and increase harmony.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will gain all sorts of favors by the simple expedient of a winning smile and friendly nature. Be sure to give a good educational background, since the creativity here is high. Then, success is assured.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

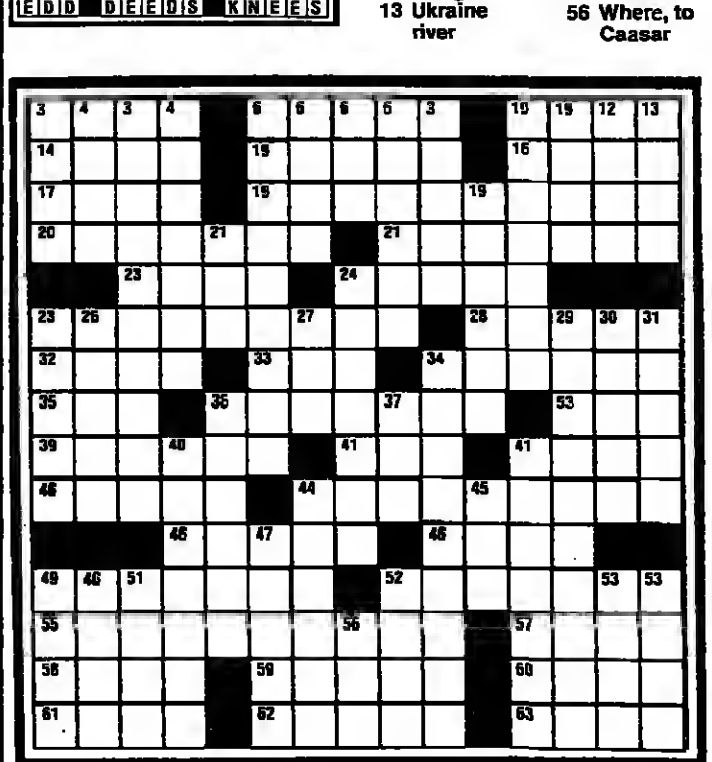
### THE Daily Crossword

By William Lutwiniak

ACROSS	25 Emulated	48 Da — (superfluous)	19 Sow's
1 Staffer	26 Swift	49 Barbarian	offspring
5 Muslim	28 Hungarian	50 ruler of	21 Household
10 fath	32 composer	Italy	god
14 Impertinent	33 caveat	52 Now	24 Suffix
15 Not a soul	34 Twifling	55 Tricky	28 Copland of
18 Brilliant	35 Made over	57 Niche	music
19 display	36 "Exodus"	58 object	27 Kind of
17 Does the	37 Put down	59 Picture	code
wrong thing	38 Opposed	60 puzzle	29 Trickery
18 Tricker	39 Gilded	61 Do house-	30 Win by —
20 Colonist	41 A March	work	31 Fissures
22 Fishing	42 sister	61 Mille	34 Accuracy
23 Four	43 Fiasco	62 Zodiacal	35 Figure out
seasons	44 Autographed	sign	37 Okhotsk,
24 Floss'	45 Walrus	63 Being	for one
relatives	46 Blackberry	ganus	40 Kind of
			protein

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SCRAP	BARBER	TIAG
CLAVE	EDDIE	AGRA
HAYWARD	ANDINO	KOOS
DWYER	ORE	FACEPOD
SEEN	NITRITITE	
COPIERED	OCEAN	
ALMA	DOUGLAS	SHIM
ROUSE	PEPIT	SHORE
LODGE	MASHROT	NEA
HATTER	EWENDE	
EGOTIST	EVIA	
COPIES	URN	TRIO
ODIA	RAUL	SIAHMO
LEA	EGRETT	SAVED
EDD	DEEDS	KINEES



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# WORLD

## Haughey wins Dail vote

DUBLIN (Agencies) — Millionaire Charles Haughey became prime minister of the Irish Republic for the second time Tuesday, winning a parliamentary contest against outgoing Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald by seven votes.

Five independent and small party deputies sided with Mr. Haughey in the new parliament, giving him an 86 to 79 majority and breaking a deadlock left by last month's inconclusive general election.

Cheers and applause erupted in the Dail, or lower chamber, when the vote was announced.

Mr. Haughey, 56, won the support of five uncommitted lawmakers, including four socialists, to oust prime minister FitzGerald, whose coalition government fell by one vote in January when he introduced a belt-tightening budget in parliament to deal with the republic's severe economic troubles.

## Lord 'Rab' Butler dies

LONDON (R) — Lord "Rab" Butler, once described as the best prime minister Britain never had, died at his home near London Monday night, his family announced Tuesday. He was 79.

The former Richard Austen Butler, who held key ministerial posts from World War Two until 1964, narrowly missed becoming head of government in 1957 and again in 1963.

After the abortive Anglo-French-Israeli invasion of Egypt during the 1956 Suez Crisis, then Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden

resigned due to poor health. Mr. Butler was his deputy and widely regarded as his obvious successor but the premiership went to Harold MacMillan.

In 1963 Mr. MacMillan resigned and again Mr. Butler missed the top job which surprisingly went to Lord Home, who renounced his hereditary peerage to become Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

His last in a series of high government posts was as foreign secretary from 1963 until the Conservatives were defeated by the Labour Party at the polls in 1964.

## China reports 9-month old disaster

PEKING (A.P.) — A mountain collapsed because of unsafe mining practices last June, burying a town and killing 284 people in one of China's biggest mining disasters, the Law News has reported.

The March 5 edition of the weekly, seen here Tuesday reported the disaster in a call for stricter mine safety regulations. On Sunday the government issued new regulations and ordered mine officials to make personal underground inspections for hidden dangers.

The newspaper said the mining

town of Yan Chi River in central Hubei province was buried by one million cubic metres of rock last June 3 when the mountain above the town collapsed in the early morning.

The mountain was being mined for salt and phosphorous and was honeycombed with tunnels. Cracks had started to appear on the mountainside before the collapse, the report said.

The night before the accident someone had telephoned the assistant to a high mine official to warn of impending disaster, it said.

He was told, the newspaper said, "The old fellow is over 60

years old. We will deal with the problem tomorrow."

At 5:35 a.m., the mountain rumbled and began to collapse, burying the town, and killing 284 mine workers and their families.

Several local officials are being prosecuted for gross incompetence and negligence in failing to heed the warning signs.

The last known major mine disaster occurred in Nov. 1979, when 52 miners were killed in a coal pit gas explosion in Jilin Province.

The Chinese press frequently does not report disasters for months, until government officials approve the publication.

## Peking bureaucracy faces further trimmings

PEKING (R) — Premier Zhao Ziyang has called for a purge of remaining leftists in the Chinese bureaucracy and a ban on recruitment of extremists.

Mr. Zhao, in a speech published Tuesday in the official press, said that as part of the drive to trim the bureaucracy followers of the extreme leftist "Gang of Four" led by Mao Tse-tung's widow Jiang Qing would be removed.

"People who built their careers

as 'rebels' under (disgraced Defence Minister) Lin Biao and Jiang Qing and who are heavily influenced by factional ideology as well as smash-and-grabbers... should definitely not be promoted, not a single one of them, and those who are already in leading posts must be resolutely ousted," Mr. Zhao said.

The premier and his powerful mentor, Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, are heading a campaign

to cut China's sprawling bureaucracy which numbers over 20 million.

On Monday, the standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's parliament, announced plans to cut the number of vice-premiers from 13 to two and the merging of several ministries and commissions.

Mr. Zhao, in his speech to the standing committee last Tuesday, said there was an urgent need to promote younger officials as well

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

### Reagan to proclaim Afghanistan day

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan is proclaiming March 21 as Afghanistan day to call attention to that country's continued domination by the Soviet Union. That day, the first day of spring, is celebrated in Afghanistan as the start of the new year. Mr. Reagan will sign the proclamation Wednesday in the East Room. The House of Representatives and Senate passed resolutions last week calling attention to Afghanistan as "a nation occupied and terrorized by over 80,000 troops." John Burgess, deputy director of public liaison at the White House, said the proclamation is the result of a citizens' effort led by former Secretary of State William Rogers. "He's gotten support from the three former presidents and former secretaries of state Dean Rusk, Cyrus Vance, Henry Kissinger and Edmund Muskie," Mr. Burgess said. "It's a kind of 'let us forget' thing."

### Canberra welcomes Karamanlis

CANBERRA (A.P.) — Greek President Constantine Karamanlis received a hearty welcome in Canberra Tuesday from Australian leaders and members of the local Greek community. Mr. Karamanlis was welcomed at Canberra airport by a 21-gun salute. Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and Governor-General Sir Zelman Cowen. About 100 members of the local Greek community, in national costume and carrying the blue-and-white Greek flag, also met him. Mr. Karamanlis will confer with the Australian government Wednesday and will be guest at a special parliamentary luncheon hosted by Mr. Fraser.

### 'French Connection' cop wants to quit

PARIS (R) — Paris criminal police chief, Francois le Mouel, best known for his role in breaking the "French Connection" heroin ring, has asked to be relieved of his duties, because of a dispute with the interior minister. Mr. le Mouel told reporters he had sent a letter to Interior Minister Gaston Defferre asking to be removed from his post. He was named head of the Paris criminal police division last April. The move came after Mr. Defferre had reassigned one of Mr. le Mouel's deputies, Marcel Leclerc, to the Mediterranean port city of Marseilles. Mr. Leclerc described the reassignment as a demotion and exercised his legal right to refuse the transfer. Recent newspaper reports have said senior police officers are increasingly upset by France's socialist government and its plans to reform the police. Mr. le Mouel was head of the anti-drug squad which cracked a Marseilles-based drugs ring refining Turkish opium into heroin for the lucrative New York market. The American side of the story was turned into a film entitled "The French Connection."

## Mysterious cloud 'volcanic'

SAN FRANCISCO (A.P.) — Preliminary findings indicate that a cloud circling 16 kilometres above the Earth is made of tiny droplets of sulfuric acid from a volcanic eruption somewhere in Africa or Asia, researchers say.

Ames Research Centre scientists hope to confirm Tuesday those findings, issued Monday and based on a study of samples collected Saturday by a U-2 reconnaissance plane which passed through the cloud at 15, 16.7 and 18 kilometres over the Gulf of Mexico.

"It's very likely volcanic," said Pete Waller, information officer for Ames, which is operated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "It almost has to be. The scientists found very little rock debris," he added, which eliminated a nuclear blast or a meteorite explosion.

Mr. Waller said scientists also found levels of radioactivity so low that the experts virtually ruled out the possibility that the cloud, which was discovered Jan. 23 by Japanese scientists, is the remnant of a nuclear explosion.

"A typical pattern with a volcano is that it ejects ash, rock and lots of sulfuric gases," said Mr. Waller. "Within the first week all the ash and rock falls out, leaving behind the sulfuric residue. That hangs around for months and gradually turns to sulfuric acid."

Mr. Waller said the cloud is girdling the earth from the equator to about 50 degrees north, along a line passing through Germany, Poland and several U.S. states, including Washington, Idaho and Montana.

The location indicates the volcano erupted several months ago in Asia, Africa or somewhere in the ocean.

## Labour threatens to boycott Reagan's parliament speech

LONDON (Agencies) — Opposition Labour Party legislators in the House of Commons threatened Tuesday to boycott U.S. President Ronald Reagan when he addresses parliament in June, and there were suggestions those who do show up might heckle him.

The legislators were angry that Labour leader Michael Foot was not consulted about an invitation to the president to make the speech, the first ever by an American president, to both houses of parliament June 8.

Mr. Foot, opposed to many of President Reagan's policies, reacted angrily Monday when he heard about the proposed address in a radio news bulletin.

After a meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in which, according to her aides, she attempted to head off a confrontation, he told reporters that if he'd been consulted about inviting Mr. Reagan he would have objected.

Other members, among them Labour legislator Martin Flannery of Sheffield, said they would boycott the speech. Many mentioned opposition to Mr. Reagan's support of the ruling junta in El Salvador.

The tabloid Sun reported Tuesday that some Labour members of parliament had "threatened to boo" the president. Heckling of British prime ministers is a time-honoured practice in the House of Commons, where the leader appears regularly to answer colleagues' questions amid shouts of "here, here" and "shame."

## Newport trial testimony concludes

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — The tortured courtroom exposure of the private lives of socialites Claus and Martha von Bulow has ended after 57 days.

Now a jury will decide if the case of Danish financier and his 575-million heiress wife, lying in a coma in a New York hospital, is one of attempted murder or of self-destructive excess.

Evidence in the case against Mr. von Bulow, charged with twice trying to murder his wife with insulin injections, ended Monday with eight witnesses called by Prosecutor Stephen Famiglietti to counter the defence case.

Judge Thomas Needham told the jury of seven men and five women it could start considering a verdict on Thursday after final arguments by both sides Wednesday.

Officials at no. 10 Downing Street, Mrs. Thatcher's official residence, said she had been deeply embarrassed by the premature disclosure of the planned speech. It was leaked to a Los Angeles Times reporter in Santa Barbara, near the ranch where Mr. Reagan was vacationing, by the president's deputy chief of staff, Michael Deaver, weeks ahead of a planned official announcement.

"Reagan blunder stuns Maggie," read Tuesday's headline in the Daily Mirror. The rival Daily Mail said, "Reagan puts his foot in it."

The liberal Guardian newspaper said in an editorial that the whole affair had been "woefully

mismanaged" but added, "it would be churlish... to attempt to block or deny the president his privileged platform in Westminster Hall."

Government officials said Mrs. Thatcher had "conveyed her displeasure" to the White House Monday about the premature release.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Monday night that so far as the British government was concerned there was still no announcement to make about Mr. Reagan's programme when he comes to this country in June.

He said the Foreign Office received an expression of regret from the U.S. embassy for the misunderstanding.

## Zimbabwe whites' party suffers another defection

SALISBURY (R) — The Republican Front (RF) party of former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith Monday lost its control over the white seats in Zimbabwe's parliament with the defection of another rebel.

Party Chairman Geoff Kluckow said chief whip (parliamentary floor manager) John Landau resigned Sunday to sit as an independent.

Eight other R.F. legislators quit last week to become independents in the House of Assembly, saving the party which dominated the final years of white Rhodesia had failed to adapt to black rule since

independence 23 months ago. The R.F. won all 20 places reserved for whites in the 100-seat House of Assembly in Zimbabwe's independence election. Now its representation in the house has slumped to eight.

In addition to the nine rebels, one R.F. legislator, Wally Stuttaford, 61, is detained on suspicion of plotting a coup. Another former minister, Denis Walker, is abroad, wanted by police on a similar charge, and a third, former minister Rowan Cronje, has emigrated.

telling him she no longer wanted sex with him.

Mrs. von Bulow never knew that intimate details of her life were being related in court. She has lain senseless with a feeding tube in her nose for almost 15 months.

The jury was even taken on a tour of Clarendon Court, the von Bulow mansion on Newport's millionaires row.

The defence case pictured her as a neurotic alcoholic and drug taker given to gluttonous indulgence in sweets forbidden by doctors.

Surprise witnesses called by the defence testified that she herself said her husband's first alleged attempt to kill her was in fact a suicide attempt and that she once recommended self-injection of insulin as a diet aid.

## Ian Smith faces major political crisis as followers desert party

## 'Good Old Smithy' left holding the baby

By Rodney Pinder  
Reuter

SALISBURY — Having lost more than half its members of Zimbabwe's parliament in the past three months through resignation, detention and flight, the once all-powerful R.F. party is in disarray.

Ian Smith, the "Good Old Smithy" of Rhodesia's heady days of rebellion against the British crown, is still party leader but looks and sounds tired and careworn.

"I'm left holding the baby," the former prime minister complained as seven M.P.s deserted him last Thursday. The seven are trying to forge closer links with the black majority government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, the ex-guerrilla leader Mr. Smith used to call a bloodthirsty Marxist terrorist.

The R.F., formerly the Rhodesian Front and now the Republican Front, has suffered the biggest split since it was formed in 1963 to defend white minority interests against a rising tide of black nationalism.

Eight of its 19 members of parliament quit during the week to become independents, saying the party had failed to adapt itself to change since white-dominated Rhodesia became black-ruled Zimbabwe 33 months ago.

Former party whip Dennis Divaris, 67, the latest to resign, told reporters: "I will not taunt or ridicule or denigrate the black man as has been done in parliament by certain members."

Until recently the R.F. held all 20 seats in the 100-seat parliament guaranteed to whites until 1990 under the peace agreement which ended seven years of war between white and black forces in 1979.

R.F. legislator Wally Stuttaford, 61, was arrested last December on charges of plotting a coup against Mr. Mugabe's government. He has been held without trial ever since under emergency regulations once used by the R.F. to crush political dissent.

Another R.F. member of parliament, former Minister Denis Walker, is abroad, wanted on similar charges. Yet another M.P., ex-Minister Rowan Cronje, has emigrated.

The last major R.F. split occurred

in 1977 when 12 right-wingers broke away because they believed the party had gone soft in the war against the guerrilla forces. But then the rebels represented only a fourth of the party's strength.

Many political analysts wonder if the R.F. can again recover given the changed circumstances of the times.

Some whites believe the R.F.'s only power lies in its ability under the constitution to obstruct the government. The rebels believe that is too negative a role which

strains the government's policy of post-war reconciliation between the races.

Mr. Mugabe charges that the R.F. is rooted in a past of a racially-divided Rhodesia, a world of masters and servants. He has accused the party and its followers of being unable to adapt to his socialist-based multiracial society.

He recently hinted to a gathering of white businessmen that if the white M.P.s could shake off the R.F., cabinet positions would become available for whites. Agriculture Minister Denis Norman,

who does not belong to a party, is now the only white in the 28-member cabinet.

The pro-government Sunday Mail newspaper has urged white Zimbabweans to abandon the R.F. as a political and moral liability.

In the past the white community unfailingly rallied around Mr. Smith when he appealed for unity in the face of adversity.

R.F. Chairman Geoff Kluckow believes it will do so again. He said the party switchboard had been jammed with calls of protest against the behaviour of the rebels.

"I believe this will give us a boost," he said. "Their action will awaken the electorate out of its complacency."

The fate of the R.F. will to some extent govern the fate of Zimbabwe's 180,000 whites, surrounded by almost seven million blacks.

Mr. Mugabe and his ministers have often said they will ultimately judge the whites' response to their official policy of reconciliation by the amount of support given the R.F. — the old byword for racial separation and white domination.

In one poll of white voter opinion published recently, the Sunday Mail newspaper reported a mixed reaction to last week's revolt. Some whites called for unity behind the R.F. banner while others called for more cooperation between the races.

One white male, reflecting the opinions of the 1,500 whites officially estimated to be emigrating each month, declared: "Quite frankly I couldn't give a damn. I'm leaving."

A by-election for the vacant white seat is due next month and should give an indication of how much white support the old R.F. can still muster in the new Zimbabwe.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Ship blown up at Lebanese port

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Explosive charges blew up a Lebanese cargo ship at the port city of Tyre in southern Lebanon overnight Tuesday. The Beirut-based radio said the blast occurred "despite stringent security precautions by local armed elements" mounted after the vessel docked at the Tyre harbour with a cargo of rice Monday. The radio did not say who might have been behind the explosion but noted that the ship, named Rashed, was "followed for quite a long duration into Lebanese territorial waters by an Israeli gunboat." The privately owned "Voice of Lebanon" radio station, which speaks for the rightist "Christian Lebanese" militiamen, said the explosive charges were planted by Israeli frogmen who swam to the ship's bottom from the gunboat.

Meanwhile, one man was killed and six men were wounded in an ambush in the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli Monday night, state-run Beirut radio said.

### Libyan leader plans Vienna meeting with exiles

VIENNA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi planned to meet Libyan exiles during a surprise, four-day visit to Austria from Wednesday and would try to encourage them to return home, a Libyan official said here Tuesday. The official of the Libyan Jamahiriya's people's bureau (embassy) here told reporters that Col. Qadhafi wanted to talk to Libyans, prevented by private reasons from returning home, about their problems and help them to come back and help build a new Libya. Austrian officials said that during his visit, news of which only became widely known Monday, Col. Qadhafi would have talks in Vienna with Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and Foreign Minister Wilfried Fahn, and would also visit Linz and Salzburg.

### Pakistani minister to talk with Saudis on labour detention

ISLAMABAD (A.P.) — Ghulam Dastagir Khan, minister for labour and manpower, said Tuesday he will visit Saudi Arabia in April to discuss the detention of Pakistani workers in the country. Mr. Khan told reporters the government has a report indicating that Saudi Arabia has detained nearly 6,000 Pakistanis who illegally entered that country—some without work and travel documents—over the past several years.

### Kabul repeats denial of chemical weapons

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghanistan has denied for the second time this month allegations about the use of chemical weapons against Afghan insurgents. The latest denial, in a commentary by the official Bakhtar news agency, broadcast Monday night by Radio Kabul, coincided with a statement by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel in Washington that more than 3,000 people were reported killed in Afghanistan in Soviet chemical weapons attacks.

### 'No Iranian exile military in Turkey'

ANKARA (A.P.) — Turkey Monday officially denied Western news reports claiming that Iranian exiles financed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) have formed paramilitary units in eastern Turkey. Acting Foreign Minister Ihan Oztrak called the reports "completely untrue" and "irresponsible" in a written statement distributed to the press. The denial was apparently triggered by a New York Times report of Sunday which claimed that the United States was secretly aiding Iranian paramilitary and political exile groups.



Ian Smith campaigns for his Rhodesian Front — now Republican Front — during the Zimbabwean election in 1980 (Gamma photo)